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Linda McCartney *Life in Photographs*

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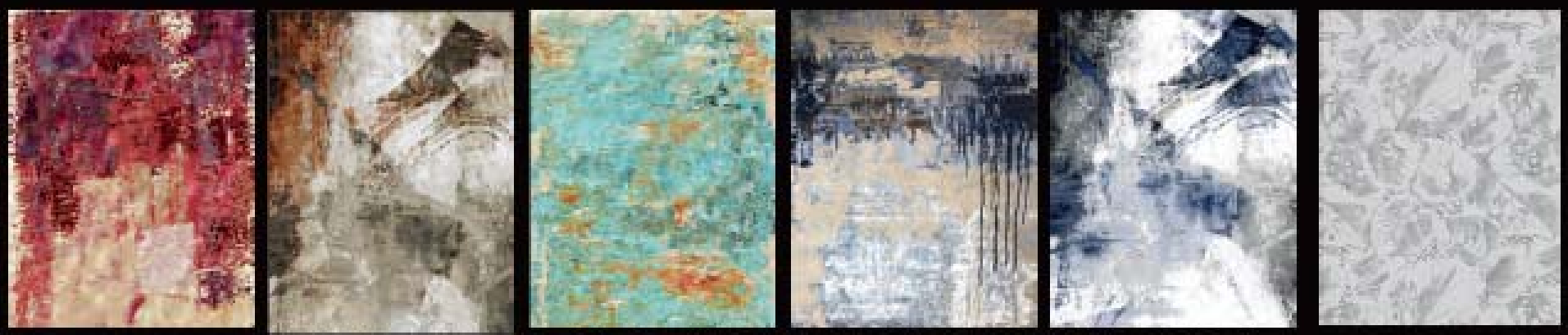

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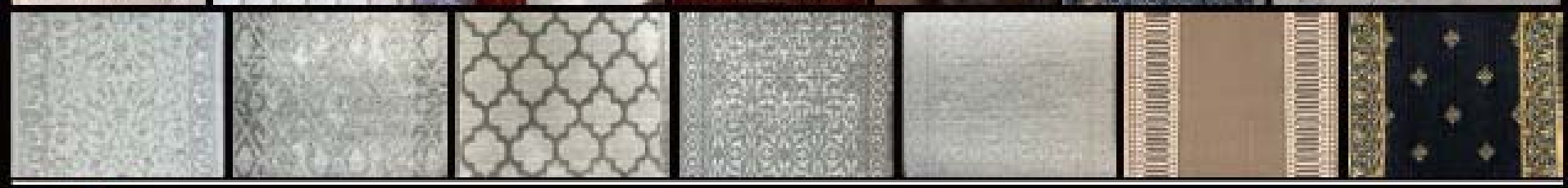

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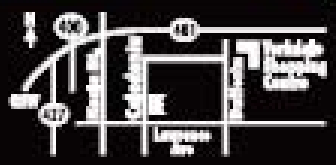

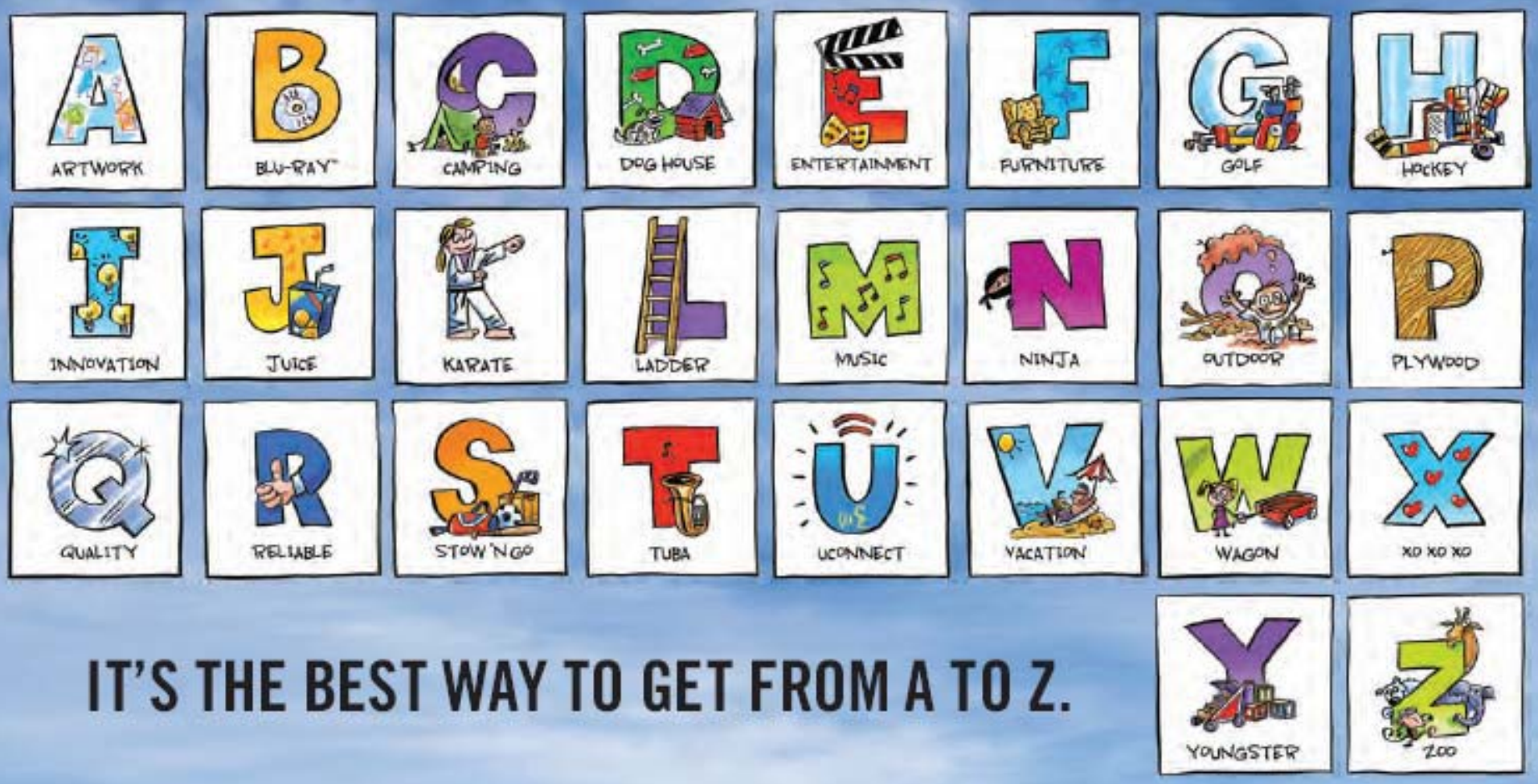

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styleathome SEPTEMBER 2015

Bold blueprint-like wallpaper perks up this home office.

HOMES

82 ALMOST FAMOUS
A Quebec family embarks on a whole-house renovation, and the results are worth their time and effort

88 ARTIST IN RESIDENCE
A fashion photographer transforms her home into a work of art

94 COME TOGETHER
This abode near Collingwood, Ont., is all about indoor-outdoor living

COLUMNS

19 STYLE NEWS
The best home decor products, the hottest trends and the most inspiring ideas

24 TRENDSPOTTING
Move over, mint – fresh, sophisticated sage is our current colour crush

26 HOUSEKEEPING
Everything you need to know about outdoor candles

28 STYLE DESTINATION
Think Las Vegas is all partying, gambling and dancing? Think again

32 FOOD NEWS
The latest and greatest gourmet products, kitchen gadgets and more

34 DESSERT OF THE MONTH
A delicious sour cream peach buckle

38 DECORATING 101
Photographer Jean Longpré's rustic loft bathroom

40 RENO OF THE MONTH
Convenient storage solutions are at the heart of this kitchen renovation

48 INSIDE DESIGN
Get whisked away into the wonderful world of designer Windsor Smith

56 HIGH OR LOW
A cozy home office nook devised on drastically different budgets. Can you tell the two rooms apart?

These vintage-look coffee canisters can be reused to hold pantry staples.

DECORATING

65 INTO THE WOOD
Two kitchens prove that modern and country can co-exist in perfect harmony

70 WORKING IT
Research editor Mary Levitski's home office undergoes a complete makeover

74 EVERYONE AT EASE
A family's beloved four-season getaway borrows its seaside vibe from Cape Cod

FOOD

100 SWEET ON BEETS
Delicious and nutritious, this must-have veggie has become a harvest-time habit

REGULARS

FROM OUR EDITOR 10
GET SOCIAL 16
WORKBOOK 104
STYLE BOARD 106

TABLET EDITION
Get *Style at Home* for your iPad, with additional how-to video content, bonus image galleries and more. Download it on the App Store today.

ON THE COVER
Stacked firewood, plush textures and vintage artwork warm up this Victorian abode **88**

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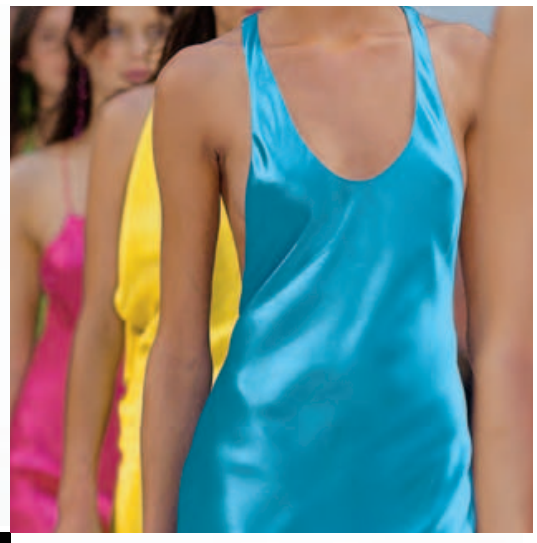

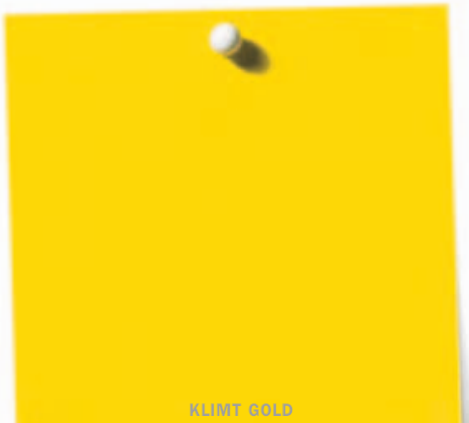

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slow FIXES

I admit it: As much as I love my home, sometimes I want to throw everything out and start over. It's not that I don't adore all my possessions (believe me, I do!), it's that my house – with its riding equipment, hockey gear, fabric swatches, teenaged-daughter trail of clothing and shoes, cast-off furniture, pet stuff, work papers and other random bits and bobs of a busy life – is not organized. In other words, it's pretty much the same as everyone else's home.

Here's another admission: Like most people, I'm a sucker for magazine headlines that promise better organization. Cut the Clutter! Storage Solutions! Smart Strategies for Every Room! They're all guaranteed to make me plunk down my cash, positive that this time I've found the magic formula for making my home orderly and serene, a minimalist's dream, with everything in its designated space.

The reality is that I will never have a construction bin in my driveway ready to receive everything I own. And there is no magic formula for living clutter-free, other than owning next to nothing. Not my style at all! So should I give up my dream of an organized home? Absolutely not. I just have to be practical and start small. Instead of throwing the baby out with the bathwater, I need to make tiny changes that, over time, will make a big difference.

That's the message this issue. Handy helpers for streamlining your kitchen abound in our Style News section, while our home office stories showcase genius ways to get both form *and* function from your workspace. Plus, we've pulled out clever ideas in each of our interiors that help the owners stay organized. Whether it's a towel rack or a monochromatic palette, you'll find a great place to start.

Erin

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HANDY HELPER

One of my favourite kitchen organizing features is my pullout pantry shelves. They make it super easy to see what food I've got, and cleaning them is a cinch!

PHOTOGRAPHY, STACEY VAN BERKEL, VIRGINIA MACDONALD (PANTRY); HAIR & MAKEUP, NATALIE BLOUIN/PLUTINO GROUP; DRESS, TED BAKER

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COTTAGE **COMFORT**

I received the July 2015 issue in the mail today and read it cover to cover. I love all the homes featured, but my absolute favourite is the cottage that editor-in-chief Erin McLaughlin's family updated ("The Family Stone," page 100). It looks so comfortable, which is my idea of the perfect family getaway. I also love how they honoured their grandfather's memory by retaining some of his workmanship. Thank you so much for keeping a summer retreat "real."

SHERRY SPENCER, VIA EMAIL

DETAILED **DISCOVERIES**

One of my family's favourite columns in *Style at Home* is High or Low. My two kids (ages eight and six) can't wait to tear into each new issue as soon as it arrives to try to distinguish between the high and the low rooms. I have to say, I'm pretty proud of my junior designers, as they have become very skilled at picking out the key details that differentiate the price points. We hope to continue seeing this column for years to come.

JULIE TOMPA, HALIFAX

CREATIVE **OUTLET**

Consistently stellar, *Style at Home* has been my source of inspiration since I was 13 years old. The awesome photography, decorating tips and recipes have all helped develop my creativity and eye for detail. The magazine has recently motivated me to sell much of my old furniture to create a brand new look for my home. Thanks for the great issues!

SARAH GREY, VIA EMAIL

HOT AND **COLD**

With the recent heat wave in Vancouver, I was very appreciative of the Malted Nectarine Yogurt Pops featured in the July 2015 Dessert of the Month column (page 40). I decided to serve them at a dinner party, and my guests were amazed that I had managed to whip up the dessert from scratch. It's great to have access to original recipes like this. I look forward to more delicious ideas!

TEENA HUBLER, VANCOUVER

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style news

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Mid-Century **SOFA** with Luster Velvet fabric in Celestial Blue, $1,559, West Elm, westelm.com.

SEPTEMBER'S MUST-HAVE: *standout sofa*

What do you get when you cross a sleek Mid-Century Modern silhouette with luxe blue velvet fabric and pecan-stained wood legs? A showstopper of a sofa with livable style.

ILLUSTRATION, MICHELLE MORELAN

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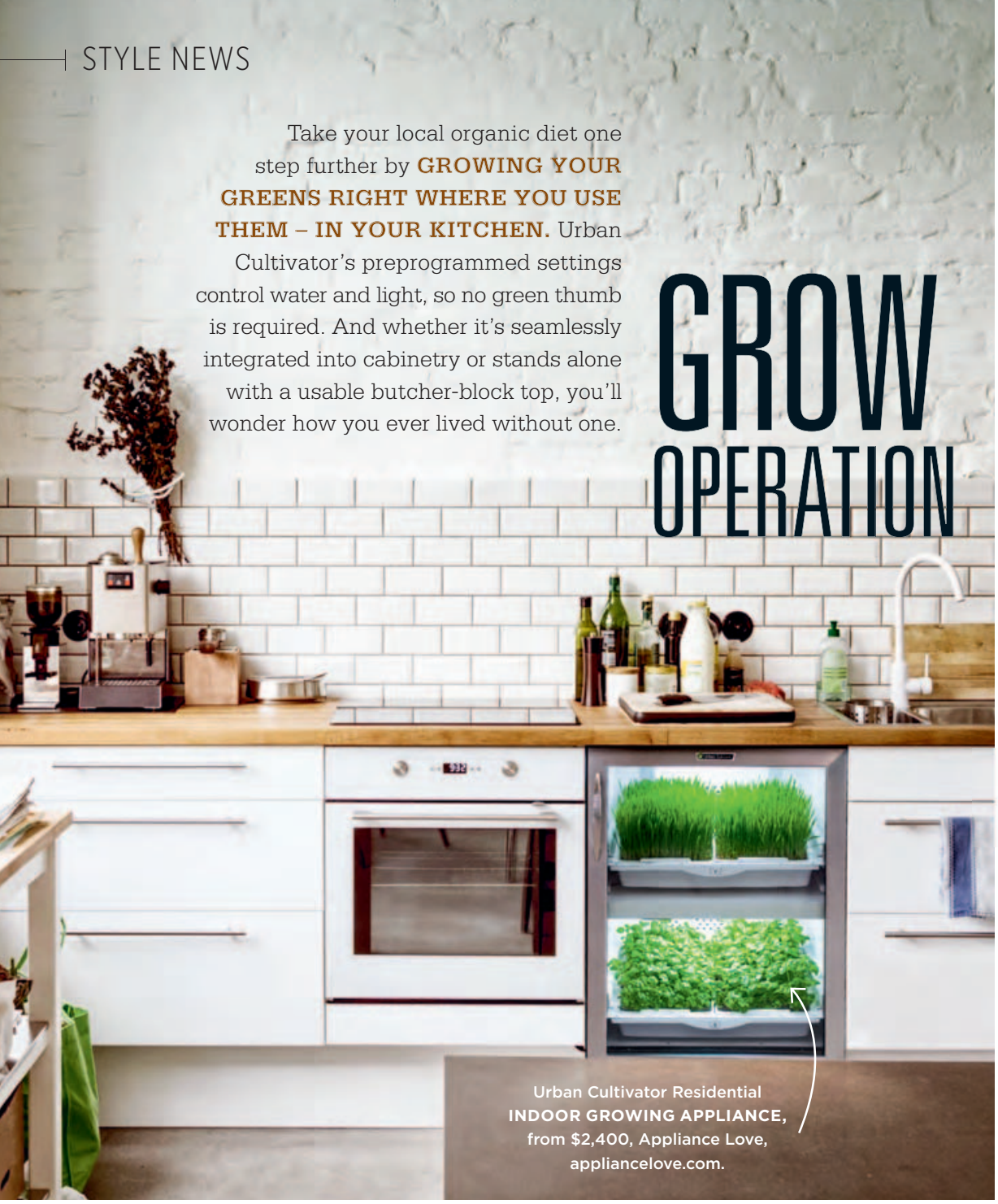

Urban Cultivator Residential **INDOOR GROWING APPLIANCE,** from $2,400, Appliance Love, appliancelove.com.

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SUNNY SIDE UP

With all its sleek, neutral surfaces, a kitchen can cry out for a hit of colour. How about these cheery yellow paints to brighten up the utilitarian space?

Sundance 2022-50 **PAINT,** from $38 per gallon, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca; Ralph Lauren Monogram RL4282 **PAINT,** from $55 per gallon, The Home Depot, homedepot.ca.

THINK SINK

Never has a kitchen sink had such serious wow factor. Kohler's latest stainless steel single-bowl basin comes tricked out with handy compatible accessories, including a wash bin, colander, bamboo cutting board and two grated racks, all of which easily slide into one of three graduated ledges. Cool, right?

Under-mount single-bowl Prolific **KITCHEN SINK,** $1,441, Kohler, kohler.ca.

GO ANYWHERE

THERE'S NO PLACE THIS SCANDI-STYLE OTTOMAN/BENCH/COFFEE TABLE CAN'T GO. TO TIDY UP A CLUTTERED FAMILY ROOM, FOR EXAMPLE, HIDE KIDS' TOYS UNDER THE LIFT-UP POLYESTER-BLEND UPHOLSTERED TOP AND DISPLAY MAGAZINES IN THE OPEN CUBBY.

Ash Mimico **STORAGE OTTOMAN,** $995, Gus Modern, gusmodern.com.

HOW ARTICULATE

Add flex appeal to your kitchen with Brizo's new articulating Solna faucet. **IT HAS THE LOOK OF AN ICONIC TASK LAMP AND THE FUNCTION OF A PULLOUT FAUCET,** making dish duty way less daunting.

Articulating Solna **KITCHEN FAUCET** in Matte Black, $1,123, Brizo, brizo.com.

The Living Table

Your dining table is about more than just dining. It's the setting for good mornings, arts and crafts, post-work storytelling and nightcaps—and it should have as much personality as you do. Create a one-of-a-kind space with statement rugs, vintage-inspired glassware and colorful chairs that beg to be mixed and matched. It's small touches like these that make the house feel lived in and loved for years—and years to come.

Style, your way. See our new Marcel Dining Table and Buffet in stores.

Pier 1 IMPORTS™

PRODUCER AMANDA ETTY

sage

Move over, mint – fresh, sophisticated sage is our current colour crush.

inspiration

In J.Crew's fall 2015 collection, Slim Boyfriend Chinos in Quarry Green are styled as a neutral.

1 Saybrook Sage HC-114 **PAINT,** from $48 per gallon, Benjamin Moore, benjaminmoore.ca.

2 Tourbillon BP 4805 **WALLPAPER,** $225 per 11-yard roll, Farrow & Ball, farrow-ball.com.

3 Ceramic Avron **VASES,** from $44 each, West Elm, westelm.com.

4 Kastrull **SAUCEPAN,** $20, IKEA, ikea.ca.

5 Alvar Aalto Artek 60 **STOOL** in Green, $308 US, Horne, shophorne.com.

6 Velvet Ombre **TOSS CUSHION COVER** in Blue Stone, $39, West Elm, westelm.com.

7 Page **HANGING PLANTER,** $19, CB2, cb2.ca.

SEEING CHANGES IN YOUR SKIN?
IT COULD BE LOSING VOLUME.
NOW RESTORE FULLNESS, SMOOTH WRINKLES.

BECAUSE YOU'RE WORTH IT.

©2015 L'Oréal Canada
*Source: *Euromonitor International Limited*, retail value RSP terms in 2013. †Versus the use of cream alone.

NEW

REVITALIFT™
VOLUME FILLER™
RE-VOLUMIZING HYDRATION

BOOST YOUR SKIN PLUMPNESS† **3X MORE** WHEN USED TOGETHER

★★★★★

In less than a month, my skin looks plumper and wrinkles are less noticeable. I'm being asked what my secret is!

Eugenia, ommorphiabeautybar.com

■ WHAT IS VOLUME LOSS?

HAVE YOU NOTICED THAT AS YOU AGE YOUR SKIN LOSES VOLUME, BECOMING LESS PLUMP? UNDER-EYE HOLLOWS LOOK MORE PRONOUNCED AND WRINKLES BECOME DEEPER. THIS VOLUME LOSS IS DUE TO A DECREASE IN HYALURONIC ACID, WHICH NATURALLY OCCURS IN SKIN TO HELP MAINTAIN MOISTURE.

■ THE SOLUTION: REVITALIFT™

WITH OUR HIGHEST CONCENTRATION OF HYALURONIC ACID, VOLUME FILLER™ HYDRATES TO VOLUMIZE SKIN SURFACE LAYERS AND SMOOTH WRINKLES. CHEEKS APPEAR FULLER, UNDER-EYE HOLLOWS SEEM LESS NOTICEABLE AND WRINKLES LOOK VISIBLY REDUCED.

Find out more about volume loss at **volumefiller.ca**

N*1 FACIAL CARE WORLDWIDE

L'ORÉAL® PARIS

HOW TO

select and use outdoor candles

Everything you need to know about candles so you can lend your patio party that perfect glow (without the waxy mess). **PRODUCER** MARY LEVITSKI

burn notice

SIZE MATTERS

Candles come in all shapes and sizes. Though choosing one is mostly based on aesthetics, bear in mind that larger, wider options have significantly longer burn times. For instance, a pillar is a great low-maintenance choice for outdoors – place it in a glass hurricane to protect it from the wind, and it can go for hours.

WICK(ED)

Typically made of cotton, wicks absorb the warmed wax and pull it upward for the flame to burn. Look for intricately braided or knitted constructions, which burn slower and keep the flame going longer.

Candlelight is the ideal complement to a relaxing night outside – until you have a wax spill, that is.

The good news is there's no reason to rush to clean it; wiping wet wax will only make it spread. Wait for it to fully dry (or speed up the process by holding a bagged ice cube against it). If the spilled-on surface is hard, such as metal or glass, scrape off the wax using the edge of a credit card. If it's fabric, isolate it from the insert or any stuffing and use a dull butter knife to remove the wax. If any residue remains, place a few sheets of paper towel over it and heat with an iron set to low (the warmed wax will transfer onto the paper). Repeat, swapping in fresh paper towels as needed.

WAXING PROTECTIVE

When not in use, candles should be wrapped in tissue paper and stored in a dark, cool spot (for extra protection, place tapers in paper towel rolls). To revive dusty or nicked candles, don old pantyhose like a glove and buff the surface.

wax on, wax off

THE LOWDOWN ON THE THREE MOST POPULAR KINDS OF CANDLE WAX.

Paraffin: Most common and inexpensive; a by-product of crude oil, so it's non-renewable and may release toxins as it burns.

Soy: Natural and long-burning; typically less fragrant than alternatives.

Beeswax: The original candle wax, it's all-natural and has a pleasing honey scent; pricey.

TEST THE WATER

Contain drips by using a tray or candle holder. To keep the holder clean, pour a little water in before inserting the candle; dripped wax will sit and harden on the water's surface.

kings of candles

Our top picks for outdoor-friendly candles.

FLAMELESS
Classic battery-operated pillar that boasts a life-like flame flicker and won't melt in the sun.

Plastic-injection-moulded Flameless Outdoor Pillar **CANDLE,** 3" x 6", $30, Pottery Barn, potterybarn.com.

FRAGRANT
A small poured votive that emits a long-lasting floral scent to enhance the aroma of your own plantings.

CANDLE in Shimmer with glass holder, $7, Unstopables, unstopables.com.

ANTI-BUG
A robust lidded poured option that will keep bugs at bay for up to 50 hours.

Illume Chroma Citronella Outdoor **CANDLE** in Fresh Rain with iron tin, $25, Indigo, indigo.ca.

PHOTOGRAPHY, GAP PHOTOS (GARDEN PARTY)

HE FIGHTS DIRTY *no matter how dirty* DIRTY IS.

NO MATTER WHERE THEY ARE, TOUGH MESSES DON'T STAND A CHANCE WHEN MR. CLEAN'S MAGIC ERASER IS PART OF YOUR CLEAN ROUTINE.

WHEN IT COMES TO CLEAN THERE'S ONLY ONE Mr.

Wet before use. A rinse is required for surfaces that come in direct contact with food. Use as directed.

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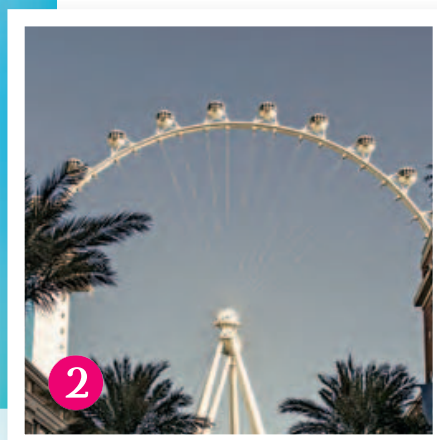
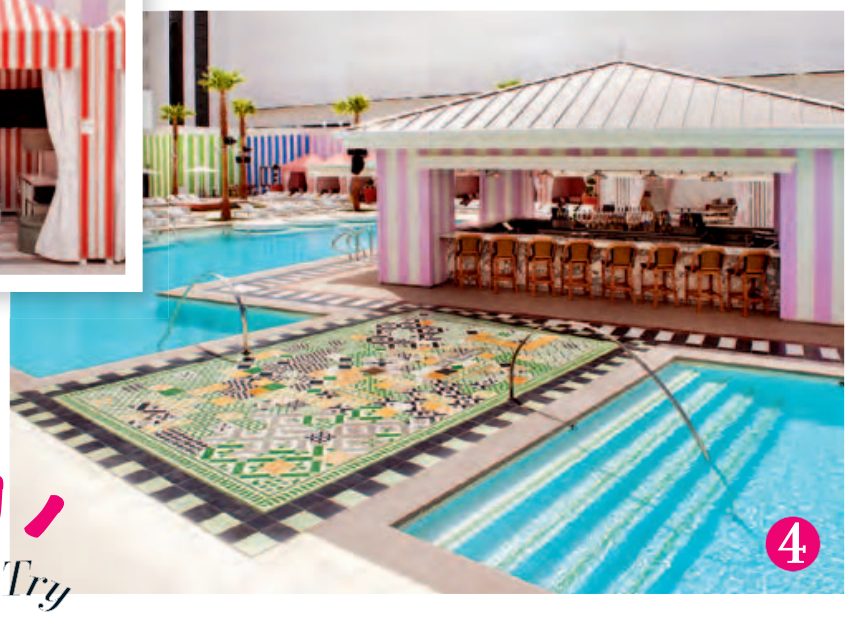


Philippe Starck's playful poolside style.



PRODUCER SARA CATION

Must-Try

Number of days to spend here

3

EDITOR'S ITINERARY: Las Vegas

NEVADA

Think Sin City is all partying, gambling and dancing? Think again. With trendy restaurants, chic shops and designer hotels, Vegas is also a decor lover's dream that's well worth the splurge.

Day 1

Check into **SLS Las Vegas,** the stylish yet playfully luxurious new hotel designed by the inimitable Philippe Starck, boasting quirky decorative winks like mirrors on the ceiling and monkey-adorned stained glass windows. Grab a latte at **The Perq** coffee shop and decompress at **Foxtail Pool (4),** which, true to Starck style, features a giant rubber ducky sculpture and colourful circus-tent-striped cabanas. Get gussied up for a night out and start with cocktail hour at **The Chandelier** (a tri-level bar adorned with two million beaded crystals) at The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas. Order a Verbena, which comes topped with a "Szechuan button" that will take your taste buds on a titillating ride. Then splurge on dinner at the Michelin-starred **Picasso** at the Bellagio, where you'll dine among original artwork by the cubist painter. Request a table by the window to enjoy the famous **Fountains of Bellagio,** too. And what's a trip to Vegas without a show? **Cirque du Soleil's** *O* features daring aquatic acrobatics that will blow you out of the water and whisk you into a surrealist's fantasy world.

Day 2

Have an early brekkie at **Della's Kitchen** at the chic new Delano Las Vegas, which serves up fresh locally sourced fare – the Mojave Sunrise hand-pressed juice is just divine. Then, stray from the strip and head to

PHOTOGRAPHY, ISTOCKPHOTO (LAS VEGAS SIGN, HIGH ROLLER), DAVID GIRAL (THE NEON MUSEUM), RYAN FORBES (FOXTAIL POOL), CAESARS PALACE (FROZEN HOT CHOCOLATE)

ONE SIZE DOES NOT FIT ALL

Your body's most complex structure is your face. At LensCrafters, our custom fit technology allows us to craft glasses that fit your eyes and face perfectly.

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downtown Vegas. Get dazzled at **The Neon Museum (3),** where old casino signs are laid to rest; strolling the two-acre wonderland of towering vintage neon is a jaw-dropping experience. Spend the afternoon shopping and gallery hopping in **18b,** the Las Vegas Arts District. Feeling hungry? Make **Bar/Bistro** in **The Arts Factory Las Vegas** your first stop, after which you can explore the converted warehouse it's located in and the many studios and galleries there. Next, go treasure hunting in **Antique Alley Las Vegas,** making sure to stop in at **Patina (1)** and **The Funk House.** Head back to the hotel for a decadent dinner at **Bazaar Meat by José Andrés** and treat yourself to some Cotton Candy Foie Gras to satisfy the kid and the adult in you. Enjoy a nightcap at **The Sayers Club** for live music and artisanal drinks.

Day 3

Recharge by sleeping in or hitting the spa for the morning of your final day. Go for lunch at **Giada,** celebrity chef Giada De Laurentiis's new restaurant, and share a variety of the drool-worthy antipasti. Leave room for dessert at **Serendipity 3 (5)** at Caesars Palace and split a decadent frozen hot chocolate. For your final stop, visit The Linq's promenade and take a ride on the **High Roller (2).** At 550 feet, it's the tallest observation wheel in the world and boasts spectacular views of the city you're about to bid farewell to.

PLAN YOUR OWN TRIP

SLS Las Vegas, The Perq & Bazaar Meat by José Andrés
slslasvegas.com

Foxtail Pool
sbe.com

The Chandelier
cosmopolitan-lasvegas.com

Picasso & Fountains of Bellagio
bellagio.com

Cirque du Soleil
cirquedusoleil.com

Della's Kitchen
delanolasvegas.com

The Neon Museum
neonmuseum.org

18b
18b.org

Bar/Bistro
barbistroaf.com

The Arts Factory Las Vegas
theartsfactory.com

Antique Alley Las Vegas
facebook.com/antiquealleylv

Patina
patinadecorlv.com

The Funk House
thefunkhouse-lasvegas.com

The Sayers Club
thesayersclublv.com

Giada, Serendipity 3 & High Roller
caesars.com

luggage tags

◀ Fractal **LUGGAGE TAGS** in Bright Multi and Black Multi, $38 US each, Jonathan Adler, jonathanadler.com.

statement jewellery

▼ **NECKLACE,** $24, Joe Fresh, joefresh.com.

self-tanner

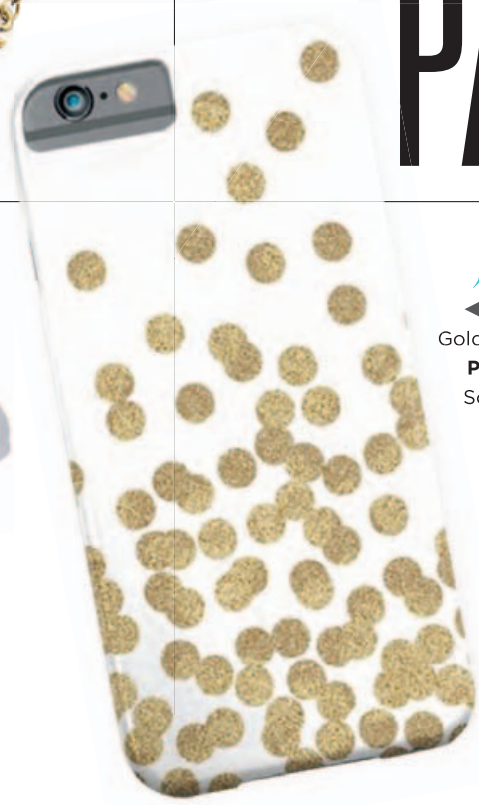
▶ James Read Liquid Tan **BRONZER** in Medium, $46, BeautyNext Group, beautynext.com.

Glittery, comfy and colourful – that's the secret combo for a chic Vegas packing list.

what to PACK

walking shoes

▲ Converse Chuck Taylor Hi **SNEAKERS** in Pink Paper, $65, GetOutside Shoes, getoutsideshoes.com.



festive case

◀ Charlotte Winter slim Gold Glitter Dots iPhone 6 **PHONE CASE,** $35 US, Society6, society6.com.

Pack comfortable walking shoes. You'll be surprised by how much ground you cover in Vegas.

Downy

wash in the wow

with Downy fresh protect

ODOUR

Neutralizes odours on the spot, protecting fabrics all day long.

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It's like deodorant for your clothes.

New Downy Fresh Protect.

Protect your clothes from odours with New Downy Fresh Protect. Just toss it in with your detergent and, like deodorant, it neutralizes odours all day long. So your clothes always smell great!

PRODUCER AMANDA ETTY

kitchen cravings

Each issue, we round up the latest and greatest kitchen gadgets, gourmet products, cookbooks and more.

1 WAFFLING AROUND

Thin and crispy heart-shaped waffles are a popular snack in Scandinavian countries. We love the idea of serving these mini treats with a variety of unique sweet and savoury toppings as an unexpected hors d'oeuvre at our next shindig. (Design editor Stacy Begg even puts them in her kids' lunches.)

Frozen Våfflor **WAFFLES,** $5 per pack of 12, IKEA, ikea.ca.

2 PRESS & POUR

This glass and olive wood loose-leaf tea and coffee press makes early mornings a little more bearable. Beautiful and functional, it deserves pride of place on your countertop.

Hario Olive Wood **TEA & COFFEE PRESS,** $45 US, Kaufmann Mercantile, kaufmann-mercantile.com.

PERFECT PEAR

The best kitchen tools are often the simplest. And since it's the season for rustic pear desserts, we're sharing this handy pear corer, which makes prep work easier and more efficient.

PEAR CORER, $11, Williams-Sonoma, williams-sonoma.com.

3 SPICE UP YOUR LIFE

We're obsessed with this blend of herbs and spices from Vancouver Island-based Epicure for jazzing up basic salad dressings and marinades.

Balsamic Vinaigrette **DRESSING MIX,** $11, Epicure, epicure.com.

4 * best ways to ENJOY PEARS

Excellent for eating out of your hand, pears also add sophistication to late-summer desserts.

cocktail pick

IT'S 5 O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE

Enjoy this Italian *aperitivo* as a light and refreshing spritz. Best served before a leisurely alfresco meal, the recipe goes as follows: Pour an ounce of Aperol in a short glass over ice; top with sparkling wine and soda water. Garnish with a twist of orange rind or an orange wedge. *Cin cin!*

Aperol **LIQUEUR,** $26, Aperol, aperol.com.

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sour cream peach buckle

RECIPE & FOOD STYLING
TANYA ENG

PHOTOGRAPHY
JOE KIM

PROP STYLING
ANN MARIE FAVOT

Fuzzy peaches are *ripe* for the pickin' right now, so make the most of their *juicy* sweetness by baking a moist and tender *coffee cake.*

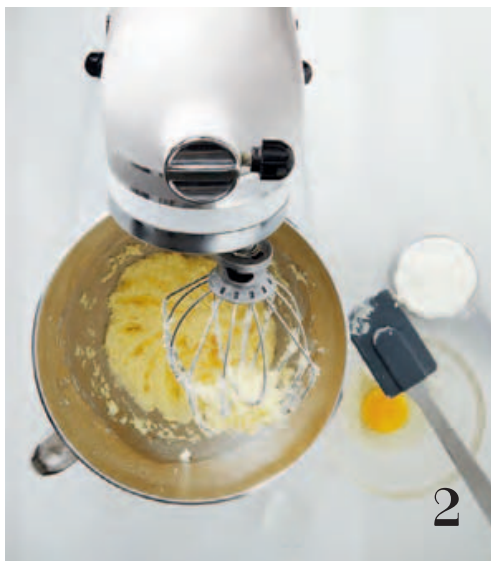
OUR DELICIOUS CRUMBLY TOPPED BUCKLE COMES WITH A HIT OF SOUR CREAM FOR A DESSERT THAT'S PEACH PERFECT!

PHOTOGRAPHY, JOE KIM/TC MEDIA; PIE DISH, ZWILLING J.A. HENCKELS, ZWILLING.CA

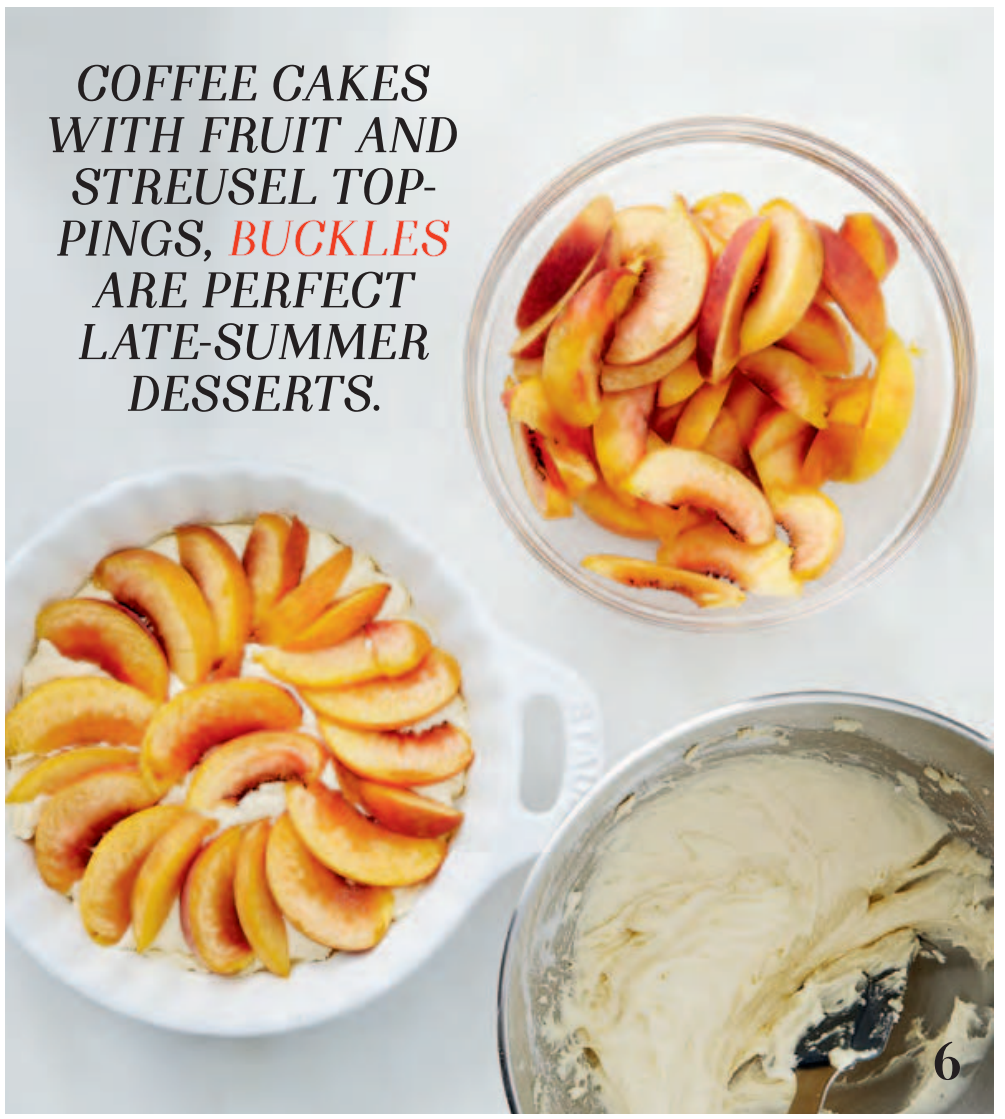
START WITH CRACKER BARREL • END WITH AMAZING

SLICES

from



COFFEE CAKES WITH FRUIT AND STREUSEL TOPPINGS, BUCKLES ARE PERFECT LATE-SUMMER DESSERTS.



INGREDIENTS

SERVES 8 TO 10

Coffee Cake

- ½ cup unsalted butter, softened
- ¾ cup granulated sugar
- 2 eggs
- ½ cup sour cream
- 1 tsp almond extract
- 1½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp baking powder
- ½ tsp salt
- 4 cups fresh peach slices

Streusel Topping

- 1 tbsp cold unsalted butter
- 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
- ¼ cup sliced almonds
- 2 tbsp demerara sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon

DIRECTIONS

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Using a stand mixer fitted with the paddle attachment, cream together the butter and sugar on medium-high speed until light and fluffy. With the mixer still running, add in the eggs, one at a time, followed by the sour cream and almond extract.

Meanwhile, in a medium bowl, sift together the flour, baking powder and salt. Reduce the mixer to low speed and add the dry ingredients to the wet in three additions, scraping down the sides of the bowl after each addition.

Butter and flour a 9" round deep-dish pie pan. Pour half of the batter evenly into the pie pan and layer 2 cups of the peach slices overtop. Repeat with the remaining batter and peach slices.

To make the streusel topping, in a small bowl, work together the butter and the flour with your fingers until a coarse meal forms. Stir in the almonds, sugar and cinnamon. Sprinkle on top of the peach slices.

Bake until a toothpick inserted in the centre of the buckle comes out clean, 50 to 60 minutes. Allow to cool slightly and serve warm with ice cream on the side.

New delicious taste

More flavour bursting from every box.

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LET LIGHTING TAKE CENTRE STAGE WITH A PAIR OF STATEMENT SCONCES LIKE THESE ONES THAT ARE REMINISCENT OF VINTAGE CANDLE HOLDERS.

loft bathroom

With a penchant for all things rustic and loft-like, photographer Jean Longpré designed his Quebec home to reflect the French countryside. We look to his master bath and bedroom for a dose of inspiration.

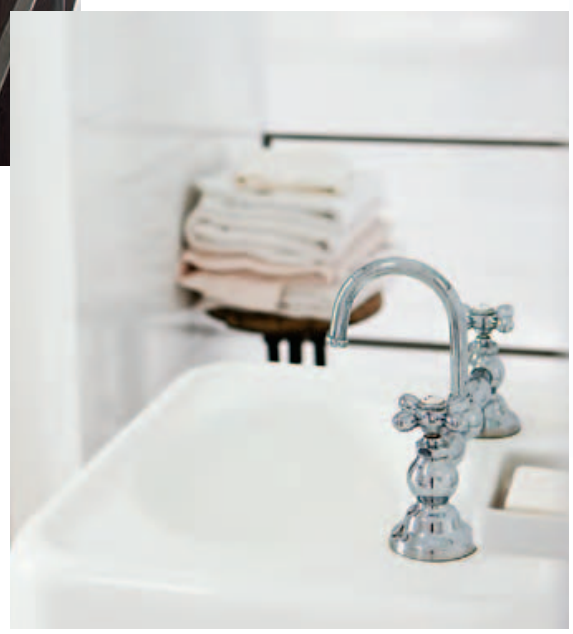
TEXT BRITTANY DEVENYI | **PHOTOGRAPHY** JEAN LONGPRÉ | **STYLING** NICOLA MARC

TO ADD COUNTRY FLAIR TO A TYPICAL INDUSTRIAL-STYLE LOFT, LINE A WALL WITH PINE PLANKS AND PAINT THEM WHITE.

Linen **BEDDING,** beige **THROW** (on bed), blue **TOWEL** (beside bathtub), taupe **HAND TOWEL** (beside sink), Qui Dort Dîne; **FAUCETS,** Strom Plumbing by Sign of the Crab; **FLOOR TILES,** La Tuilerie; **PITCHERS** (holding flowers), Arthur Quentin.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

AN OPEN-CONCEPT SPACE AWASH IN WHITE RUNS THE RISK OF LOOKING COLD AND CLINICAL. FOR A SIMPLE SOLUTION, INJECT THE ROOM WITH SCULPTURAL ACCENTS AND UNEXPECTED HITS OF COLOUR.



LOFTS ARE OFTEN FLOODED WITH NATURAL LIGHT. SOAK IT ALL UP BY INSTALLING GLASS WALLS, DOORS OR RAILINGS.

TREAT THE FLOOR AS PART OF YOUR CANVAS AND OPT FOR TILE THAT'S BOTH TRENDY AND TIMELESS, SUCH AS THIS HEXAGONAL DESIGN.

get the look

Vintage Industrial

▲ Hannah **SCONCE** in White Porcelain with Streamline Clamshell Opal shade, $165 US, Rejuvenation, rejuvenation.com.

▼ Hexagonal **TILES** in Matte White, 1", $9 per sq. ft., Ciot, ciot.com.

◀ Lefroy Brooks basin mixer La Chapelle **FAUCET** in Chromium Plate with pop-up waste, $3,395, Ginger's, gingers.com.

◀ Trolley Stop **HOOK** in Linen, $12 US, Anthropologie, anthropologie.com.

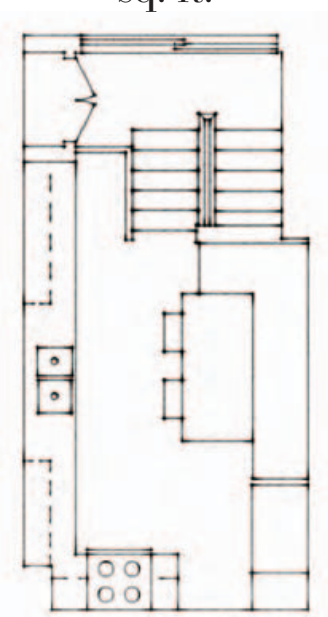
▲ Bancroft **PEDESTAL SINK** in White with 8" centres and 24" deck, $562, Kohler, kohler.ca.

▼ Cotton Japanese Herringbone Stripe Cotton **TOWELS** in Ivory & Navy, $35 US each, Restoration Hardware, rh.com.

PROBLEM
A dark, cluttered, uninviting kitchen

SOLUTION
Count on a designer to solve the space crunch

FLOOR PLAN
300
sq. ft.



old meets *new*

Convenient storage solutions are at the heart of this Victorian home's kitchen renovation.

TEXT LESLEY YOUNG | **PHOTOGRAPHY** DONNA GRIFFITH | **STYLING** MORGAN LINDSAY

ABOVE "There's a good mix of open and closed shelving," says designer Philippe Beauparlant of the renovated kitchen. Walnut-veneered uppers open horizontally and provide access to all the items the homeowners use regularly but want out of sight. Only the most used dishes were designated for open shelving so they don't gather dust.

DESIGN, Beauparlant Design, beauparlant.ca; **CONTRACTING,** custom **CABINETRY, COUNTERTOP,** SMK Construction; Desert Twilight 2137-40 **CABINETRY & STAIRWELL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **BACKSPLASH TILES,** Stone Tile International; **MICROWAVE,** Panasonic; **CABINETRY HARDWARE,** Richelieu Hardware; **FRENCH PRESS,** Hudson's Bay.

When making by hand
means making a mess,
your hands could use a hand.

TOUCH$_2$O® TECHNOLOGY

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Touch it on. Touch it off. With Delta® Touch$_2$O Technology, simply tap anywhere on the spout or handle of the faucet to start and stop the flow of water. Learn more about these innovative faucets for your kitchen and bathroom at *deltafaucet.ca/touch*.

DELTA
see what Delta can do™

@DeltaFaucetCAN

LEFT The dining table was custom made from vintage table legs and a reclaimed-wood top stained to just the right grey-brown. The banquette's vinyl fabric looks like leather but is easier to maintain.

Vanilla Milkshake OC-59 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **WINDOWS, DOOR,** Pella; custom **BANQUETTE,** Beauparlant Design; **STOOLS,** Mi Casa; **FLOORING,** Moncer Specialty Flooring; *Malibu* **ARTWORK,** Christine Flynn Art; low **SERVING BOWL,** Hudson's Bay.

BELOW The floor-to-ceiling cabinet on the landing houses coats and boots as well as sports equipment and seasonal items like patio cushions.

Tara Ellis and Andrew Bell lived with the cramped and outdated kitchen in their semi-detached Victorian in Toronto for 12 years before deciding it was time to make some changes. Not only was the space aesthetically unpleasant, but it was also a pain in their backs – literally. "The existing countertop was installed below standard height. I'm six feet tall, and my husband is about as tall," says Tara. Since a few other rooms in the house weren't terribly livable either, they called on designer Philippe Beauparlant to oversee a massive renovation. "As for the kitchen," says Tara, "we wanted a better layout with lots of storage, and I've always loved a banquette."

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#1 DERMATOLOGIST RECOMMENDED*

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† NEUTROGENA® brand's first product marketed for improvement of skin tone and dark spots in a week.

* Adult skincare brand in North America, excl. Mexico.

LEFT The cabinet on the left side of the range houses a pullout bin for recycling. The garbage and compost containers are located under the sink.

REFRIGERATOR, RANGE, RANGE HOOD, Sub-Zero and Wolf; red **FRENCH OVEN,** Hudson's Bay.

BOTTOM Grey grout deliberately draws attention to the unique pattern of the white subway-tiled backsplash.

FAUCET, Axor; yellow **PENDANT LIGHTS,** West Elm.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

The planning process

"One of the challenges I noticed right away," says Philippe, "was the kitchen's poor connection to the backyard." Specifically, the back door in the adjacent mud room opened onto a tall outdoor staircase. His solution was to move the inside stairs that led down to the basement to the back of the house, incorporating a lower landing area that's level with the yard. This clever approach allowed for floor-to-ceiling storage on the landing. And with the back wall now completely clad in glass, natural light floods the kitchen.

The design decisions

While the couple loves a modern industrial feel, they also wanted to preserve the home's character. That's why Philippe chose a clean cabinet door profile and installed crown moulding that matches an existing one in the house. He also played up the heritage aspect by picking a traditional grey-green shade for the cabinetry. A splash of colour comes from mustard yellow pendant lights and tomato red handles on the Wolf range, which Tara tied together with two stools her mother calls "mustard and ketchup."

The result

"Everyone gravitates to the kitchen now because it's so bright and airy in the day and cozy at night," says Tara.

PASSION FOR THE BEST

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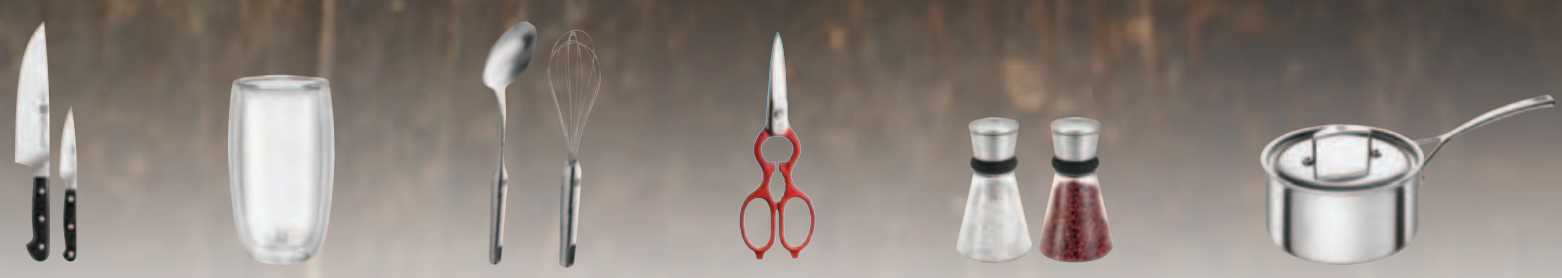

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ZWILLING
J.A.HENCKELS

Design, Connie Braemer Design, conniebdesign.com; Photography, Michael Graydon

BLACK BEAUTY

The allure of a classic is that it remains true to its roots, but that doesn't mean it can't get a fashion-forward update every now and then. In decorating circles, that means that although, say, a dramatic black and white room will never go out of style, you can always give it a fresh facelift to highlight the newest looks. Case in point is this sleek monochromatic kitchen. While it features timeless elements like contemporary white cabinetry and open shelving, it also incorporates a slew of the latest trends. Inspired to inject a little iconic black and white into your space? We searched out the key pieces you need to be on trend and in style – and stay that way for years to come.

TREND #1

SUBTLE DETAILS

When it comes to show-stopping kitchens, it's all about the details. From thoughtfully designed cross-hatch etching on the handles to enhance grip, to subtle pops of colour, the look of the redesigned KitchenAid appliances is understated yet elegant and sophisticated. These premium details provide creative home chefs with a high-performance and fashion-forward kitchen space.

DISHWASHER WITH CLEAN WATER WASH, $2,099, KitchenAid, kitchenaid.ca.

STo KITCHEN FAUCET in Matte Black, $547, Moen, moen.ca.

TREND #2 MATTE FINISHES

Slick and shiny has given way to a more subtle, lustrous look that works well in a monochromatic or neutral-toned kitchen, lending it added depth and dimension. Plus, it's a trend that can accommodate a variety of budgets – you can find it in anything from a stand mixer or faucet to an investment piece like a range-hood or refrigerator.

ARTISAN® SERIES 5-QUART STAND MIXER, in Imperial Black, $549, KitchenAid, kitchenaid.ca.

WALL-MOUNT VENT 600 CFM, 30″, $1,799, KitchenAid, kitchenaid.ca.

5-DOOR REFRIGERATOR WITH ICE/WATER DISPENSER, 36″, $4,899, KitchenAid, kitchenaid.ca.

TREND #3 BLACK STAINLESS APPLIANCES

Black is definitely back, and KitchenAid is leading the charge with its redesigned major appliance collection that includes a sophisticated new black stainless suite featuring everything from a 5-door refrigerator to a selection of dishwashers, wall ovens and hoods. The standout black stainless steel by KitchenAid is an entirely new fingerprint-resistant finish. An industry first, it's satiny, smooth and powerful – perfect for a kitchen that makes a fearless statement.

TREND #4 NEUTRAL PALETTE

The key to highlighting the drama of this graphic look is to stay within a classic colour scheme that doesn't detract from the details. By painting walls and choosing cabinetry in neutral shades, you can change up the trends with ease.

MANOR HOUSE GRAY
265, **FARROW & BALL,** farrow-ball.com.

WHITEWASH WHITE
P2089-00, **PARA PAINTS,** para.com.

SATIN GLASS
FD087-3, **BEAUTI-TONE STYLE AT HOME COUNTRY COLOUR COLLECTION,** Home Hardware, homehardware.ca.

TREND #5 TRIBAL ACCENTS

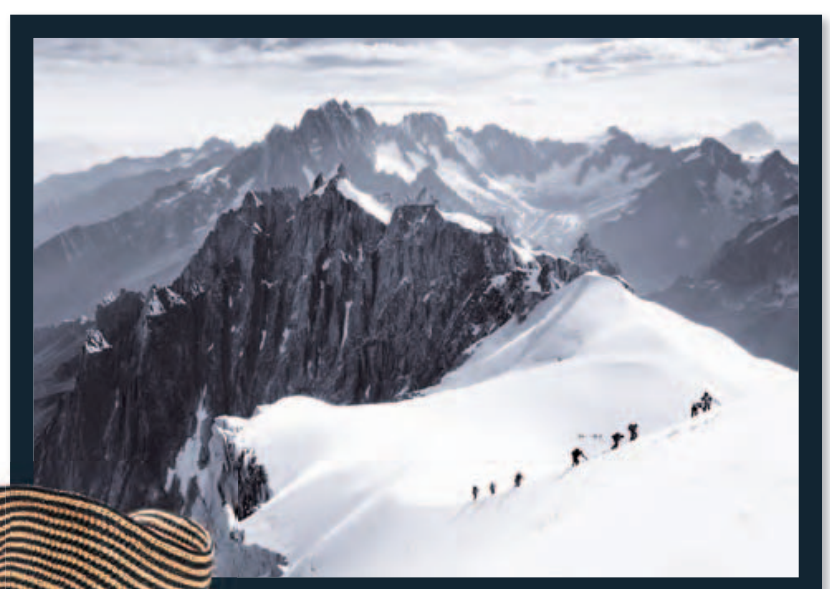
Black and white can often come off as cold, but by including handmade items like a dhurrie rug, hammam towel or woven basket, you'll add a dose of texture that will provide much-needed warmth to the space.

BLACK & BEIGE WAVE BASKET, $145, Far & Wide Collective, farandwidecollective.ca.

***THE SCALE OF NATURE* ARTWORK BY JAKUB POLOMSKI,** $1,800, YellowKorner, yellowkorner.com.

TREND #6 OVERSIZED ART

We've all seen it over the fireplace and in the dining room, but the latest spot to hang a bold piece of art is in the kitchen. Buy one ready-made or blow up your own photos to give your space a strong focal point.



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windsor smith

Get whisked away into the wonderful world of designer Windsor Smith.

PRODUCER SARA CATION

TURN THE PAGE FOR WINDSOR'S SECRETS TO GALLERY WALL SUCCESS.

LIFESTYLE ARCHITECT

"It isn't just about pretty rooms anymore," says designer Windsor Smith in her new book, *Windsor Smith Homefront*. "It's important to look beyond shimmery surfaces, gorgeous fabrics and expensive furnishings, and think about the overall appeal of your home and what you want the quality of your life to be." That's why Windsor calls herself a "lifestyle architect." She helps people find livable luxury in houses that cater to their lifestyles; she designs spaces that are meant to be used and encourage togetherness. That's probably why she's among the most sought-after designers today, with celebrity clients like Gwyneth Paltrow; product lines with beloved companies like Kravet, Arteriors and Boyd Lighting; and smaller design programs that give those with tight(er) budgets access to her inimitable style. Her rooms are lovely, layered, elegant and inviting, much like Windsor herself. It's easy to see why she's so admired.

PHOTOGRAPHY, CINDY GOLD PHOTOGRAPHY

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EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED

You'd be surprised to learn that, until recently, Windsor had a Ping-Pong table smack dab in the middle of her living room. "Both my sons are competitive tennis players," she explains. "And living rooms are those lost spaces that are expensive to decorate but rarely get used." So she made the most of hers and had it painted black, popped a bright blue Ping-Pong table in its centre and placed white linen sofas around the perimeter. "The kids loved it – their friendships were formed there," she says. She's since taken back the space and transformed it into a late-night sitting room with dark walls, white sofas and an art display (shown on the previous page). "It's the room where everybody goes to relax at the end of a dinner party," she says. "It's dark and dreamy."

"My style in two words? Eclectic aristocracy."

GILDED GALLERY

A PEEK AT A GALLERY WALL FROM ONE OF WINDSOR'S PROJECTS.

WINDSOR'S GOLDEN RULES FOR CREATING A GALLERY WALL

1) START A COLLECTION. Gather frames and artwork over time so when you're ready to create your gallery wall, it's just a matter of marrying the items you've amassed. "Collect, collect, collect, and then lay everything out, move it all around and edit it until you get to the perfect configuration," says Windsor, who suggests starting with empty frames and adding the artwork after.

2) HAVE A RULE OF THUMB. You can have frames in different sizes, says Windsor, but they should always be hung the same distance apart. "Whether you choose 1¼" or 3¼" for your grid spacing, you have to be fairly rigid about the distance from one frame to the next," she says.

3) MAKE YOUR MARKS. After you have your layout, trace each frame onto a piece of paper, marking the location of the hooks. Use these mock frames to mark on the wall where each hook should go, and then start hanging.

4) ENJOY IT. Pour a glass of wine, put on some music (Windsor would probably play opera by Alessandro Safina) and have fun!

PHOTOGRAPHY, LUCA TROVATO (LIBRARY)

65TH ANNIVERSARY

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EVERLASTING TRENDS

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houzz

ON INSPIRATION

"Pinterest is absolutely addictive, but I also love to visit my local design district or even root out smaller storefronts for in-person inspiration," says Windsor, who lives in the Los Angeles area. "Sometimes, when I need to source a lot of pieces, I'll jump on a plane to San Francisco because I love its design centre. It's nice to get out of my element. Additionally, I attend great art exhibits and see old movies...I look for inspiration in everything."

Windsor Smith Homefront by Meredith Strang (Rizzoli New York, $50)

"I don't have a certain aesthetic, a mark that I keep trying to hit – I'm not trying to stick the same landing. I'm always attempting a different cartwheel."

THE GATSBY EFFECT

It's remarkable to see how inspiration manifests itself in Windsor's designs. "I watched *The Great Gatsby* on a plane coming back from New York, and I kept stopping the film to take photos with my cellphone – it must have driven the person sitting next to me crazy," says Windsor. "In Daisy's opening scene, she has her hand draped over the back of a sofa and there's sheer white drapery flowing in the background, filling the room. I was finishing a house in Los Angeles at the time, and the movie inspired the drapery – I ended up using these gorgeous gauzy sheers."

AT PLAY

GET THE LOOK OF GWYNETH PALTROW'S GAMES ROOM. ALL THESE PIECES ARE AVAILABLE ON WSROOMINABOX.COM UNDER "GOOP GAMES ROOM."

PEAS IN A POD

GWYNETH PALTROW HOSTED A DINNER PARTY FOR WINDSOR SMITH (RIGHT) THIS PAST JUNE.

STAR STYLE

Gwyneth Paltrow and Windsor Smith became fast friends when the actress bought a showhouse decorated by the designer. "I fell in love with Windsor Smith before I ever laid eyes on her...it was a house that did it," Gwyneth writes in the foreword of Windsor's book. The two have stayed super close ever since, and Gwyneth still looks to the designer for decor advice, most recently on her games room update.

PHOTOGRAPHY, MICHAEL WELLS (GAMES ROOM, LIVING ROOM), GETTY IMAGES/STEFANIE KEENAN (GWYNETH & WINDSOR)

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HALLMARKS OF HOME

Windsor makes an art of mixing old and new, personality and style. The highlights of any home are those cherished items, says Windsor. She works with clients to incorporate their existing favourites into a fresh design. "Pull forward the pieces that make you feel good," she says. "I get very uncomfortable in a space where everything is new. I just don't feel at ease." The Venetian silver lantern that hangs in the entryway of Windsor's home has enjoyed the same pride of place in each of the three houses she's lived in over the past 20 years. "A million people have tried to buy it from me but, as far as I'm concerned, it's like my wedding band – I'll never sell it," she says. "When my husband and I walk into the house, it's a nice reminder that we're home."

A DAY IN THE LIFE

MORNING

Get dressed in this pretty boudoir; check in on various projects or installations; get a head start on East Coast emailing and phone calls; meet about different aspects of the business, on- or off-site.

AFTERNOON

Design time; deal with in-house projects; work on signature collections, from choosing finishes to sketching new ideas; leave the office for some creative inspiration.

EVENING

Enjoy a cocktail – a vodka martini with four olives – by the pool.

PHOTOGRAPHY, MAX KIM-BEE (LIVING ROOM), LISA ROMEREIN (BOUDOIR), ISTOCKPHOTO (MARTINI)

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high OR low?

Creativity abounds in this cozy home office nook, which we've designed on both an entry-level and a CEO budget. Can you tell the difference?

PRODUCER ANDREA MCCRINDLE | **TEXT** BRITTANY DEVENYI | **PHOTOGRAPHY** MICHAEL NANGREAVES

HIGH & LOW Gold **WALL ORGANIZER,** CB2, cb2.ca; block **CALENDAR** (on desk), Neat, neatspace.ca.

$440

1 Cork Tackboard Harmony **WALL TILES** with self-adhesive backing, 12″ x 24″, $110 per set of 5, Jelinek Cork Group, corkstore.com.

$113

2 Large stainless steel **WALL CLOCK** in Black, Urban Mode, urbanmode.com.

$90

3 Powder-coated iron Revere **WALL ORGANIZERS** in Silver, $30 each, CB2, cb2.ca.

$399

4 Powder-coated steel swing-arm **SCONCE** with brass details, Pavilion, pavilionmodern.com.

$4,698

5 Mac Pro 3.7GHz Quad-Core Intel Xeon E5 **DESKTOP COMPUTER** with Dual GPU, $3,499, Thunderbolt **DISPLAY,** 27″, $1,199, Apple, apple.ca.

$295

6 Polycarbonate Belle Epoque **CHAIR** in Crystal Clear, UpCountry, upcountry.com.

$529

7 Painted fibreboard Emerson **DESK** in White with ash legs, Structube, structube.com.

$87

8 Stainless steel Akto **STAPLER,** Urban Mode, urbanmode.com.

$30

9 Design Ideas epoxy-coated steel Spoke **WASTE BASKET** in White, Neat, neatspace.ca.

$240

10 Royal Republiq leather Telegraph **BAG** in Cognac, Te Koop, te-koop.ca.

$5,370

11 Signature handspun wool-blend Terrazzo **RUG** in Stone & Tan, 6′ x 8′, Weavers Art, weaversart.com.

$104

1 Quartet cork **WALL TILES,** 12″ x 12″, $13 per set of 4, Staples, staples.ca.

$30

2 Powder-coated steel Bondis **WALL CLOCK,** IKEA, ikea.ca.

$48

3 Umbra aluminum Lettro **WALL ORGANIZERS,** $16 each, Urban Barn, urbanbarn.com.

$90

4 Powder-coated steel swing-arm **SCONCE** in Black, CB2, cb2.ca.

$2,399

5 iMac 3.3GHz Quad-Core Intel Core i5 **DESKTOP COMPUTER** with Retina 5K display, 27″, Apple, apple.ca.

$125

6 KSP acrylic Ghost-style **CHAIR,** Kitchen Stuff Plus, kitchenstuffplus.com.

$269

7 Painted particleboard Alex **DESK** (top only) in White, $169, painted fibreboard Linnmon **TABLETOP** in White, 2′ x 4′, $20, lacquered bamboo Hilver **DESK LEGS,** $20 each, IKEA, ikea.ca.

$28

8 Kate Spade New York acrylic Strike Gold **STAPLER,** Indigo, indigo.ca.

$1

9 White **WASTE BASKET,** Dollar Tree, dollartreecanada.com.

$70

10 Faux leather Office **BAG** in Brown, Zara, zara.com.

$3,570

11 Contemporary handspun wool Sync **RUG** in Spring Rain, 6′ x 8′, Weavers Art, weaversart.com.

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clutter control

AT TIMES, TIDYING AN OFFICE SPACE CAN FEEL LIKE A NEAR-IMPOSSIBLE FEAT (WE'VE ALL BEEN THERE). BUT BEFORE THAT PILE OF PAPER IS MISTAKEN FOR A MINI MOUNTAIN, REST ASSURED: HELP IS ON THE WAY. FROM WALL-HUNG STORAGE BINS TO FANCY GLASSWARE, THESE THREE ORGANIZING SOLUTIONS WILL HAVE YOU CONQUERING CLUTTER ONCE AND FOR ALL.

1. welcome wall storage Free up precious desk space by storing stray items in sightly wall-mounted storage bins. Ideal for tight quarters, they come in a range of sleek styles and can easily house everything from keys and office supplies to mail and magazines.

2. get creative with glass The glass message board has quickly become the new whiteboard. Simply hang a float picture frame (available at craft supply stores) on your wall and write notes on the glass using an erasable marker. Insert a favourite photograph or, if you're feeling crafty, line the inside with patterned paper.

3. repurpose pretty dishware Corral oft-used items like pencils and push-pins in gorgeous glassware or petite ceramic bowls set on a modern serving tray. Think of it as styling a glamorous bar cart, minus the booze!

FROM TOP Umbra aluminum Lettro **WALL ORGANIZERS,** $16 each, Urban Barn, urbanbarn.com; powder-coated iron Revere **WALL ORGANIZER** in Silver, $30, and Gold, $60, CB2, cb2.ca; Design Ideas block ThreeSixFive **CALENDAR** in Fog, $37, Neat, neatspace.ca.

against the grain

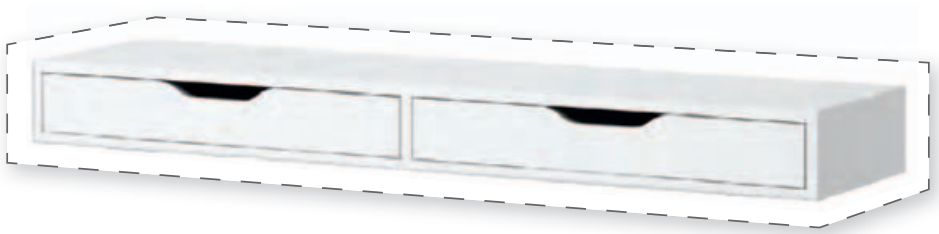
Forgo securing a bulletin board to your workspace wall and opt for this textured and versa*tile* cork alternative.

The secret to any well-decorated space is finding a balance between style and function. In the case of cork, don't restrict yourself to a pre-made bulletin board. Perfect for adorning a wall, cork tiles (sold in an array of sizes and textures) will lend a warm, tactile element to your home office. Jazz up the look some more by reusing bejewelled brooches as push-pins.

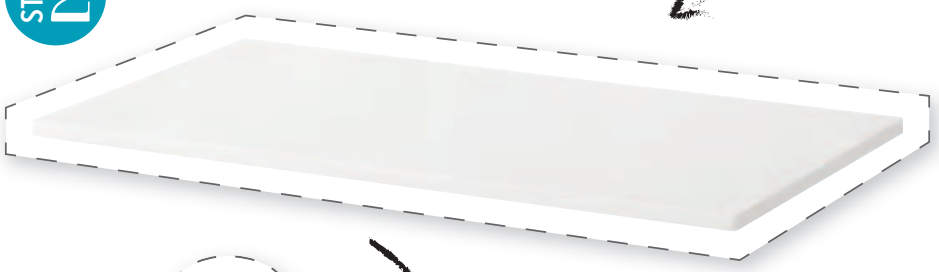
FROM LEFT Quartet cork **WALL TILE,** 12″ x 12″, $13 per set of 4, Staples, staples.ca; cork Tackboard Harmony **WALL TILE** with self-adhesive backing, 12″ x 24″, $110 per set of 5, Jelinek Cork Group, corkstore.com.

3 EASY STEPS TO CUSTOMIZING YOUR OWN IKEA DESK.

STEP 1



STEP 2



STEP 3

Step 1 Assemble the Alex desktop as per the manufacturer's instructions (you won't need the frame that's included). Set the desktop aside.

Step 2 To make the desk 30″ high (the standard height), use a handsaw to cut off 3″ from the bottom of each Hilver leg. Screw the legs into the pre-drilled holes of the Linnmon tabletop.

Step 3 Apply a latex-based adhesive to the top of the Linnmon tabletop and carefully set the Alex desktop on top, ensuring it's centred. Clamp the surfaces together while the adhesive dries overnight.

Painted particleboard Alex **DESK** (top only) in White, $169, painted fibreboard Linnmon **TABLETOP** in White, 2′ x 4′, $20, lacquered bamboo Hilver **DESK LEGS,** $20 each, IKEA, ikea.ca.

light bulb moment

Aesthetically pleasing and practical for small spaces, the mighty **sconce** prevails in the world of office lighting. On the hunt for a style that suits your budget? We promise you'll take a shine to one of these swing-arm designs.

HIGH

Brushed stainless steel Vintage, $600, Gus Modern, gus-modern.com.

Powder-coated steel with brass details, $399, Pavilion, pavilionmodern.com.

Powder-coated steel Tribeca Warren 1 in Brass, $350 US, Wayfair, wayfair.com.

Powder-coated steel in Black, $90, CB2, cb2.ca.

LOW

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The fir accent strip that runs up, across and down the island is the perfect spot for serving appetizers and drinks. A bold encaustic painting brings striking colour and texture to the dining area.

DESIGN, Jessica Touhey Design, jessicatouheydesign.com; **CONTRACTING,** Bennefield Construction; Candle CA007 **WALL PAINT,** Cloverdale Paint; custom fir **ACCENT STRIP,** Jessica Touhey Design; *Rocky Fire-Opal Coastline* **ARTWORK,** Mary Touhey; **CHANDELIER,** West Elm; **PENDANT LIGHTS,** Pine Lighting.

into the WOOD

They're a little bit country. And they're a little bit modern. These two kitchens prove that the popular styles can co-exist in perfect harmony.

TEXT JENNIFER HUGHES

PHOTOGRAPHY, TRACEY AYTON

KITCHEN #1
THE NEW MODERN COUNTRY

SAH organizing idea

Small cabinets are less visually distracting and are ideal for concealing basic everyday items.

The clean, modern island has a waterfall countertop in white quartz, with metal stools adding an industrial touch.

COUNTERTOPS, Fir Stone; **BACKSPLASH TILES,** City Tile; custom fir **FLOATING SHELVES,** Jessica Touhey Design; **FLOORING,** Wide Plank Hardwood; **CABINETRY HARDWARE,** Lee Valley Tools.

PHOTOGRAPHY, TRACEY AYTON

When Mary and Thomas Touhey traded city living for Vancouver Island oceanfront, they had the guidance of their designer daughter, Jessica Touhey. "The house was a time capsule from the 1980s," says Jessica. But its location and contemporary architecture sold them, and Jessica spearheaded the inevitable renovation. Here, she tells us how she made it all happen.

What were the main challenges with the original kitchen? The kitchen was small, severely outdated and completely enclosed. We took out as many walls as possible to create an open-concept kitchen and dining and living space with views that could be enjoyed from anywhere.

What was your overall vision for the space? We wanted a modern look with a focus on West Coast materials so the kitchen would blend into the natural surroundings.

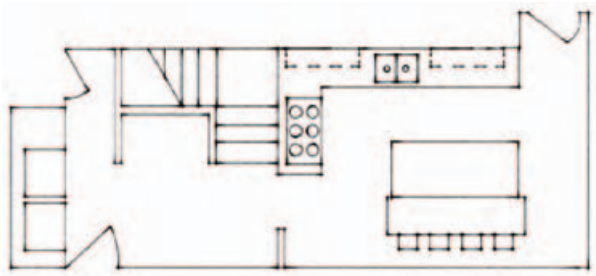
Where did you save and where did you splurge? The porcelain tile backsplash looks like marble but costs a fraction of the price of a stone slab. We also found interesting lighting from a local supplier that was reasonably priced. One splurge was the waterfall countertops, which basically doubled our material costs but were so worth it for the overall look.

What's the one investment piece you couldn't do without? We invested in a pair of under-counter fridge drawers, rather than a full-sized model, in the main kitchen to maintain undisrupted views of the outdoors. We then placed a large fridge and freezer in a pantry area just outside the kitchen.

Explain the design decisions behind the island. To provide tons of space for eating and prep, we went with a substantial-sized island. We broke up the large expanse of white quartz with a fir accent strip, which delineates the two areas and adds warmth and interest.

THE FLOOR PLAN

350 SQ. FT.



TOP Just outside the main kitchen, a large pantry area features a full-sized refrigerator and freezer.

Frigidaire **REFRIGERATOR & FREEZER,** Costco; *Autumn Leaves* **ARTWORK,** Mary Touhey.

RIGHT The only upper cabinetry incorporated into the design was two unobtrusive white cabinets flanking the window above the sink, with floating fir shelves below.

LEFT "It was important for me to have a six-burner gas range to accommodate cooking for a crowd," says homeowner Mary Touhey.

BlueStar **RANGE & RANGE HOOD,** Costco.

KITCHEN #2
THE NEW MODERN COUNTRY

SAH organizing idea

Open shelving above upper cabinets makes a perfect display space.

Plenty of wood – a barnboard-clad island and ceiling beam, walnut-veneered open shelving and European white oak floors – injects warmth and character into the white kitchen. The oversized island can accommodate up to eight people.

DESIGN, Lisa Canning Interiors, lisacanning.ca; **CONTRACTING, PERIMETER COUNTERTOP,** Black General Contracting; Sun and Star 2061-04 **WALL & CABINETRY PAINT,** Para Paints; custom **CABINETRY, SINK,** Olympic Kitchens; **ISLAND COUNTERTOP,** Caesarstone Canada; **BARNBOARD,** Urban Tree Salvage; **COOKTOP, RANGE HOOD,** Thermador; **STOOLS,** Chair Source; **FLOORING,** Stone Tile International.

PHOTOGRAPHY, VALERIE WILCOX; STYLING, CHRISTINE HANLON

LEFT Sleek matte black fixtures and hardware balance the rustic wood elements.

BACKSPLASH TILES, Weston Tile; **FAUCET,** Brizo; **CABINETRY HARDWARE,** Lee Valley Tools.

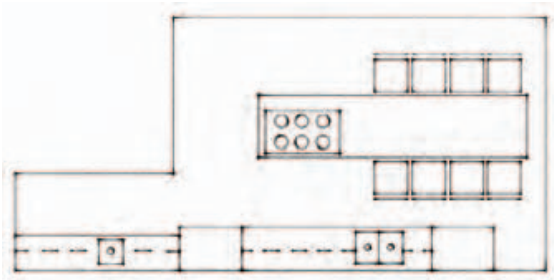
RIGHT The kitchen is flooded with natural light thanks to glass double doors.

DRAPERY FABRIC & SEWING, Tonic Living; grey **RUG,** Elte; **PENDANT LIGHTS,** Union Lighting and Furnishings.

BELOW A pantry area at the back of the kitchen houses a hot beverage station, a juicer and plenty of storage for the busy family of four. A small sink eliminates trips to and from the main kitchen.

THE FLOOR PLAN

450 SQ. FT.



"We called it the Frankenstein House," says designer Lisa Canning about the original state of this Toronto home. "There were several types of flooring used just on the main floor, and the layout was a mess." Busy entrepreneurs Donna Bishop and Stephen Keith brought Lisa in to make the space work hard *and* look good. Here, the designer explains how the project came together.

What were the main challenges with the original kitchen? The owners love to entertain, but their long, narrow house had a choppy layout, which didn't lend itself well to that. We removed every wall and post we could to completely open up the main floor. We saved space by eliminating the dining table and installing a large island with stools instead.

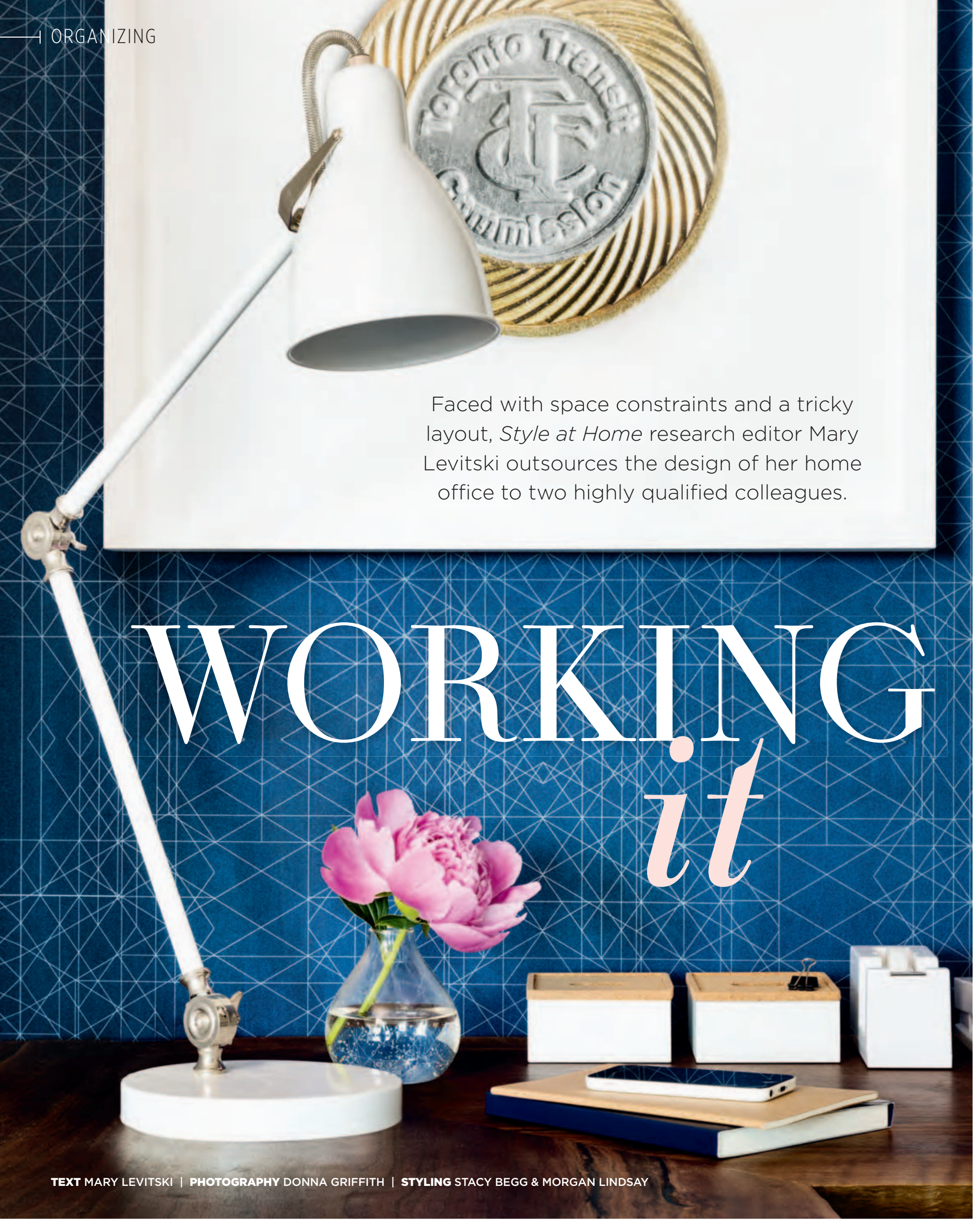
What type of kitchen did you want to create? The goal was to build a warm and inviting kitchen with a hint of rusticity. This family is very eco-conscious, so that was also a consideration that drove a lot of the design decisions.

Where did you save and where did you splurge? We invested in custom cabinetry to ensure we used every available inch of space, and all the handmade barnboard accents were also pricey due to the skilled labour involved. Using inexpensive subway tile for the backsplash saved costs, but it's a classic choice that works well with the look regardless.

What's the one investment piece you couldn't do without? The powerful six-burner gas cooktop was really important for Donna to have. The home is such a hub for friends and family, so the function of the range was a big factor. We also made it a focal point in the island.

Explain the design decisions behind the wooden accents. We wanted to inject warmth into the new kitchen, so we used wood wherever possible without making it look too country. The walnut-veneered open shelving along the top of the upper cabinets gives the kitchen a more relaxed, restaurant-like quality.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK



Faced with space constraints and a tricky layout, *Style at Home* research editor Mary Levitski outsources the design of her home office to two highly qualified colleagues.

WORKING *it*

TEXT MARY LEVITSKI | **PHOTOGRAPHY** DONNA GRIFFITH | **STYLING** STACY BEGG & MORGAN LINDSAY

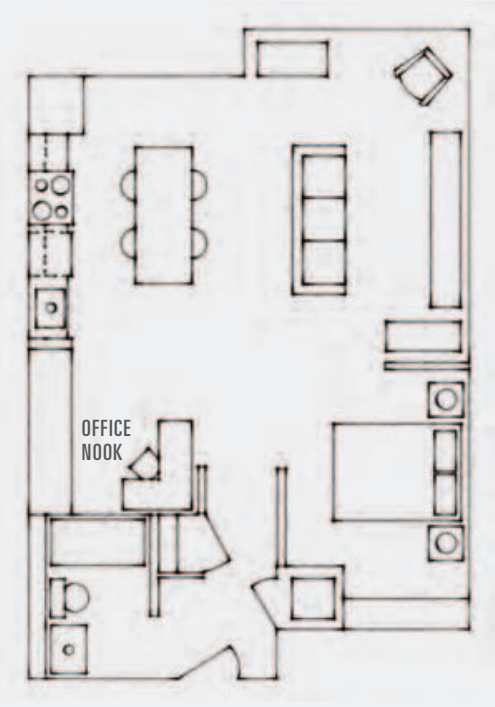
THE CHALLENGE

I wanted to carve out a dedicated office space in my tiny one-bedroom Toronto condo. The den was the obvious spot, but it lacked size and privacy. Save for two slim partition walls, the eight-by-eight-foot nook had no separation from the open-concept kitchen and living area.

THE TASK FORCE

I delegated the job of creating a his-and-hers work zone – which is at once isolated and integrated – to two of my fellow *Style at Home* staffers.

FLOOR PLAN



Delineate a work zone in a multi-functional open-concept living space by using a bold wallcovering.

1

Hollace Cluny Blueprinty **WALLPAPER** in Patriot Blue & Mineral Ice, Rollout; custom **DESK**, Robin Clarke; **STORAGE UNIT, DESK LEGS, RUG,** white **STORAGE BOXES,** IKEA; **DESK CHAIR,** Modern Furniture Knockoff; TTC Token **ARTWORK** by Peter Andrew, Art Interiors; **TASK LAMP,** West Elm.

Handed a blank canvas of builder-basic white walls and wood-look vinyl flooring, *Style at Home* design editor Stacy Begg and associate design editor Morgan Lindsay had their work cut out for them. "Priority one? Visually separate the den from the rest of the condo," says Stacy. "It needed an accent wall." After much searching, the duo found the right fit in a bold blueprint-esque wallpaper that even my picky husband, Greg Davidovitch (the construction manager at Penguin Basements), couldn't turn down. They further delineated the room with a large rug and a custom L-shaped desk that optically extends the line of one of the partitions.

Having crafted a box to think within, Stacy and Morgan tackled their second deliverable: The space needed to work double duty as a storage area, particularly for overflow from the adjacent cramped kitchen. Using prefab cabinetry, they erected a huge storage unit along the back wall. Two-thirds of it acts as a pantry, while the rest is dedicated to keeping work necessities handy and organized.

To temper the busy wallpaper and dark walnut desk, Stacy says, they chose a crisp paper white for the storage unit. Ditto most of the other elements, including the chair, filing cabinet and pendant light. Even the subway token artwork is framed and matted in the hue.

The bottom line? Calling in the pros has earned me a chic, orderly office that I *want* to spend time in (which is a good thing, I think).

HIDDEN AGENDA

Concealed within the streamlined white storage unit behind the desk are office essentials, such as a wireless printer, various file sorters and a dictionary – an editor's best friend.

MAGAZINE HOLDERS, FILE ORGANIZER, small white **BOX** with cork lid, IKEA.

Situate closed storage nearby to keep your desktop clutter-free.

2

DETAIL ORIENTED

Clever elements affirm the design duo's pro touch. For instance, Mason jars (chic complements to the homey live-edge-wood desk) are employed as holders for pencils and paper clips.

POT, IKEA; **CANDLE,** Indigo.

3

Make work a little more inviting with thoughtful touches like greenery.

FINE PRINT

If ever a man and a wallcovering were meant to be, it would be my construction manager husband and this graphic blueprint-look wallpaper. It's all the more arresting paired with the black walnut desktop's distinct grain.

White **OFFICE ACCESSORY ORGANIZER,** small white **BOXES** with cork lids, IKEA; **STAPLER, TAPE DISPENSER,** Indigo; glass **BUD VASE,** CB2.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

4

Create a dynamic tablescape with a collection of both rustic and sleek desk accessories.

Gain

This little thing
will take you
a THOUSAND
sniffs away.

Gain flings, with 50% more scent
than Gain liquid laundry detergent. Now in Tropical Sunrise.

Like any household detergent, keep away from children.

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EVERYONE *at ease*

A family's beloved four-season getaway borrows its sophisticated seaside vibe from Cape Cod.

THE FIREPLACE FEATURES THE SAME STONE USED ON THE EXTERIOR OF THE COTTAGE TO CREATE A CONNECTION BETWEEN INDOORS AND OUT.

Lake views and a cozy vibe – blankets at the ready, a fireplace waiting to roar – make the Muskoka room a picture of tranquility and a favourite family hangout.

DESIGN, Tara Fingold Interiors, tarafingold.com; **ARCHITECTURE,** Richard Wengle Architect; Collingwood OC-28 **WALL PAINT** (throughout), Benjamin Moore; cowhide **RUG,** Elte; artisanal **CANOE PADDLE,** Norquay Co.

TEXT IRIS BENAROIA | **PHOTOGRAPHY** MICHAEL GRAYDON

STYLING ANN MARIE FAVOT & CHRISTINE HANLON

SLABS OF CARRARA MARBLE COVER MANY OF THE KITCHEN'S SURFACES AND ADD SUBTLE INTEREST TO THE ALL-WHITE SPACE.

Has the dog tracked in dirt? Is that sand on the floor? Are those wet bathing suits on the sofas? Such questions are not welcome in this casually elegant 6,000-square-foot eight-bedroom cottage on Lake Simcoe in Barrie, Ont. "I love beautiful sofas and luxurious marble, but I don't care if red wine or strawberry stains eventually end up on the surfaces," says one of the owners of this four-season lakefront retreat, which she frequents with her husband, their four children and Havanese dog to escape the hustle and bustle of city life.

To complement the classic cedar-shingled cottage, the couple envisioned a contemporary Cape Cod look and turned to designer Tara Fingold to execute it. To begin, Tara created a refined seaside-inspired envelope, selecting an off-white wall paint, pale-toned hardwood floors and sophisticated finishes, such as Carrara marble for the kitchen. She then layered the vast space with graphic patterns and →

ABOVE Designer Tara Fingold nixed upper cabinetry to keep the kitchen open and airy and put focus on the gorgeous Carrara marble backsplash and waterfall countertops. Quaint California shutters give the space a coastal flair.

Custom **STOOLS,** Tara Fingold Interiors; **RUNNER,** Elte.

Boasting an alluring half-moon clerestory window, the great room has generously sized sofas to fit the scale of the space. "We had them upholstered in a heavy-duty charcoal chenille," says Tara, "so, in addition to being extremely cozy, they're very easy to clean."

Custom **SOFAS & SLIPPER CHAIRS,** Tara Fingold Interiors; **SOFA & SLIPPER CHAIR SEAT FABRIC,** Maxwell Fabrics; **SLIPPER CHAIR BACK FABRIC,** Robert Allen; custom **COFFEE TABLE,** Forest Hill Marble; **SIDE TABLES, FLOOR LAMP,** faux fur **TOSS CUSHIONS,** Elte; Schumacher **DRAPERY FABRIC,** Bilbrough & Co.; **RUG,** Dominion Rug & Home; **CHANDELIER,** Universal Lamp; Thom Filicia **TOSS CUSHION FABRIC,** Kravet Canada; fiddle-leaf fig **TREES,** IKEA.

TEXTURAL PIECES, SUCH AS THE CHENILLE SOFAS, MAINTAIN THE SPACE'S NEUTRAL PALETTE AND DON'T DETRACT FROM THE PICTURESQUE VIEW.

ADVERTISEMENT

STRETCH OUT SUMMER FUN

Long, hot days are made for playing, partying and getting messy. Organizing plans and cleaning up after everyone is enough to give you the summertime blues. One easy solution? Depend on a stretchy, durable paper towel for summer living hacks and as-you-go cleaning.

Dear Viva Brand,

Summer can be totally fun – and totally messy. From weekend brunches to ice cream afternoons to BBQ nights, we've had a blast and made a lot of messes along the way. You helped us own this summer, Viva! Your stretch and durability were the perfect tag team for all our summer messes. We even used you in a pinch to help out with cooking and entertaining. Who knew we'd learn so many great tricks this summer?

A+ job!

Sandra

Summer fun-seeker

THE GRILLING IS EASY

Summer means barbecues—and baked-on gunk. To get it gone, we soaked the grates in warm water, then scrubbed them with a sheet of Viva paper towel. It's strong when wet, so it's the only tool we needed to make our barbecue shine again.

BERRY SIMPLE

U-pick raspberries are our favourite, but they need a wash. Instead of hunting for a colander, we rinse the berries on a taut sheet of Viva paper towel under the tap. Viva® Vantage® V-Flex Weave technology means it's three times more durable when wet versus the leading towel!*

SALAD DAYS

No salad spinner? Wash and tear greens, bundle them in a few sheets of Viva towels, then swing them around to remove excess water. Viva towels are so stretchy, they won't break, and you'll have perfectly dry salads.

PUT STRETCH TO THE TEST ON ALL YOUR MESSES.
STRETCH YOUR SAVINGS AT VIVATOWELS.CA

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FABRICS ARE REPEATED THROUGHOUT THE MAIN LEVEL, KEEPING THE OVERALL LOOK COHESIVE.

easygoing textures in shades of white, grey and blue, which recall sandy beaches, sun-bleached driftwood and cloudy skies. The serene scheme is consistent from room to room, imbuing the entire cottage with a feeling of cohesiveness. "As soon as you walk into the home, it feels unified, airy and friendly," says Tara.

But the real star of the show is the cottage's natural surroundings – snippets of lake, sky and trees framed by large windows and glass doors. "Keeping the sightlines to the outdoors as unobstructed as possible was key," says Tara. To that end, design choices complement – rather than compete with – the view, so the couple can experience the relaxing qualities of the outdoors even when they're cuddled up on the cozy chenille sofas with their kids and dog. It's everything the homeowners could want in a cottage that's as lovely and livable as it is utterly gorgeous.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

ABOVE The drapes and dining chair backs feature graphic patterns in coordinating colours, which quietly animate the dining room. The lantern-style pendant light doesn't detract from the view of Lake Simcoe through the glass doors.

DINING TABLE, RUG, Elte; custom **DINING CHAIRS,** Tara Fingold Interiors; **PENDANT LIGHT,** Universal Lamp.

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Poor sleep is often caused by mental stress and the inability to relax. Once you promote relaxation, you can better fall asleep and sleep through the night. New Nordic has developed a product, which naturally promotes calmness and helps you feel sleepy, called Melissa Dream™.

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SEPTEMBER 2015

PHOTOGRAPHY, ANGUS MCRITCHIE

ORDERLY CONDUCT

Step into a clean-lined, streamlined room and you can feel yourself breathe a mental sigh of contentment. Having clutter-free surroundings can bring you a sense of peace, letting you recharge your creative batteries and reinvigorate your soul to take on exciting new decorative challenges.

Unexpected problems kick-start a lengthy whole-house renovation for this Quebec family, but the results are well worth their time and effort.

The new oak herringbone floors, installed by one of the homeowners, add warmth and architectural impact to the kitchen (as well as the living and dining rooms).

DESIGN, Jean Stéphane Beauchamp Design, jsbeauchamp.com; **FLOORING** (throughout), Dava Flooring; **FLOWERS & VASES** (throughout), Fauchois Fleurs; Horizon OC-53 **WALL PAINT,** Narragansett Green HC-157 **DOOR PAINT,** Benjamin Moore.

OPPOSITE Banquette seating allows for better traffic flow on the veranda, which leads out to the backyard. The contrasting colour scheme creates a cozy, sophisticated aesthetic.

Hale Navy HC-154 **WALL PAINT,** Guilford Green HC-116 **CEILING PAINT,** Acadia White OC-38 **TRIM PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; Purbeck Stone 275 **FLOOR PAINT,** Farrow & Ball; **TABLECLOTH, CUSHION SEWING,** Qui Dort Dîne; **PENDANT LIGHT,** Celadon Collection.

almost FAMOUS

TEXT LAURA MUIR

PHOTOGRAPHY MONIC RICHARD

STYLING NICOLA MARC

BELOW Two wingback chairs create a cozy sitting area on the veranda. "They're the proper height and size to be used at the table if the family has guests over," says designer Jean Stéphane Beauchamp.

MIRROR, Moutarde Décor; **SCONCE,** Style Labo; **LUMBAR CUSHIONS,** Qui Dort Dîne.

the scrupulous transformation of this fresh and inviting Montreal house has garnered a bit of celebrity status, at least among family and friends. "Every time someone comes over, the very first thing they ask is, 'Okay, what's new? What's been added?'" says Sarah, who shares the home with her husband, Hugo, and their two children, Henri-Louis, 11, and Léo-Paul, 6. "We have a following!"

It all started six years ago, when the couple purchased this 3,000-square-foot Arts-and-Crafts-style house in the family-oriented Cartierville neighbourhood of Montreal. They knew they would renovate at some point, but unexpected grade and foundation problems that caused leakage in the basement took them by surprise. "The whole basement had to be redone," says Sarah. "That wasn't part of the original plan."

Once they dealt with the structural issues both indoors and out, the fun part began about two years ago, when the couple enlisted designer Jean Stéphane Beauchamp to help with the decor. Sarah had spotted Jean Stéphane's charming Victorian triplex in a 2008 issue of *Canadian Home & Country* (previously a sister magazine of *Style at Home*) and was struck by his eclectic style and penchant for mixing patterns.

While working on the interior, which Sarah dubbed "the Kingdom of Stucco," Jean Stéphane needed to address its unfocused aesthetic. "It was pulling you in every direction," he says. "For example, there were large brick arches, tricoloured slate floors and almost Spanish Colonial wrought-iron handrails. In one room there was a traditional coffered ceiling and in another there were rustic wood beams. The house had a bit of everything – but it had really interesting bones."

Creating a cohesive, uniform look meant updating some architectural features (they painted an exposed brick wall in the living room and stripped or painted the dark wood elements); replacing others (the

The extension at the side of the house doubled the size of the kitchen, allowing for a brighter, more functional space. Jean Stéphane wanted the island to look like a piece of furniture, so he raised it off the floor by incorporating simple legs. A bank of cabinetry houses the wall ovens, panelled fridge, pantry and computer.

Custom **CABINETRY,** Jean Stéphane Beauchamp Design; **COUNTERTOPS,** Granite au Sommet; **BACKSPLASH TILES,** Ceragres; **WALL OVENS,** Gaggenau; **ROMAN SHADE SEWING,** Qui Dort Dîne; **STOOLS,** Restoration Hardware; **PENDANT LIGHTS,** Currey & Company; **SCONCE,** Lambert & Fils; **CABINETRY HARDWARE,** Par le Trou de la Serrure; **SERVING BOWL,** À Table Tout le Monde.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT An industrial-style console solved the problem of a below-counter-height window in the kitchen; a pretty pink flower arrangement adorns the dining table; the dining room's sideboard was built using leftover pieces from the veranda's hemlock spruce floor to give it a "found" look; the Edison-style chandelier doesn't block sightlines throughout the large dining room; citrine and cobalt accents pop in the neutral living room; a narrow kitchen drawer neatly stows tea towels; the kitchen console provides extra display and storage space; the sink, panelled dishwasher and cabinets for dishes are conveniently located along one wall for easier cleanup.

CONSOLE, Restoration Hardware; **CUTTING BOARD,** Arthur Quentin; **UTENSILS,** Les Touilleurs; Collingwood OC-28 **WALL PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **END CHAIRS, TABLE LAMP,** Celadon Collection; **CHANDELIER,** Ma Mobilier Actuel; **TABLECLOTH, TABLE RUNNER, THROW, TEA TOWELS, DISH SOAP,** Qui Dort Dîne; butterfly **ARTWORK,** Item; **FAUCET,** Kohler; **SCONCE,** Lambert & Fils.

SAH organizing idea

This pullout towel hanger makes good use of otherwise neglected space.

busy, cold slate floors were supplanted with a stunning oak herringbone design); injecting a neutral palette of greys and creams with touches of black; and incorporating Jean Stéphane's sophisticated, comfortable style, which was also practical for a family of four. Says the designer: "Sarah once said to me, 'I want something that looks fresh and fabulous if we have a party, but where I'm not scared if the kids run around.' And I think we definitely achieved that."

With the smaller projects turning out so well, Sarah and Hugo were ready to embark on a more substantial renovation with Jean Stéphane: tackling the kitchen addition. The extension (which also included a mud room in the basement and a single-car garage) allowed them to double the size of their dark, cramped kitchen and create a bright, family-friendly space. The homeowners and designer worked closely together on the plans and had a vision of something highly functional that suited the look of the rest of the house.

Recess-panelled cabinetry, quartzite countertops and streamlined pulls offer a classic vibe, while the square ceramic-tiled backsplash with grey grout lends a French bistro flair. The hammered-metal pendant lights anchor the space. "Because there are so many beautiful things to look at in the kitchen, I thought we needed a focal point," says Jean Stéphane, "and that we should do it over the island."

With the kitchen overhual complete (it took almost a year from the planning stage), you'd think Hugo and Sarah would be ready to take a much-needed breather; however, they recently added a wine cellar in the basement. So what can fans look forward to from this reno-happy couple? "We eventually want to tackle the upstairs," says Sarah.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

ABOVE The coffered ceiling was updated with creamy white and pale blue paint for an inviting look in the living room. Sheer linen Roman shades allow the windows' natural wood trim to shine. The coffee table was made by one of the homeowners from an old reclaimed door.

Collingwood OC-28 **WALL PAINT,** Horizon OC-53 **CEILING PAINT,** Acadia White OC-38 **TRIM PAINT,** Benjamin Moore; **ARMCHAIRS,** Maison Corbeil; round blue **SIDE TABLE,** agate **ARTWORK,** cream **TRAY,** blue **VASE,** horse **SCULPTURE,** Celadon Collection; **DRAPERY, ROMAN SHADE & TOSS CUSHION SEWING,** Qui Dort Dîne; **RUG,** Tapis H. Lalonde & Frère.

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

A fashion photographer and online gallery owner transforms her home into a work of art.

TEXT SARA CATION

PHOTOGRAPHY ANGUS MCRITCHIE

The light, white and airy dining room, which leads to the backyard, is a favourite space in this house – especially come summer. To maximize brightness, homeowner Maude Arsenault had the parquet floors and beadboard walls painted white.

Decorators White CC-20 **WALL PAINT** (throughout), Chantilly Lace OC-65 **TRIM PAINT** (throughout), Benjamin Moore; Wishbone-style **DINING CHAIRS,** Zone; *Testify 02* **ARTWORK** by Daniel Shipp, The Print Atelier; faux sheepskin **THROWS,** IKEA; glass **VASES,** HomeSense.

The freckled face above the fireplace lends the living room personality. Maude's sole piece of vintage artwork sits on its side, grabbing the eye's attention, and has a remarkable story behind it: Shot in 1968, the photograph is from a series that followed Bobby Kennedy's funeral train from New York to Washington, capturing the mourning public standing in salute.

Gabrielle **ARTWORK** by Maude Arsenault, *Funeral Train* **ARTWORK** by Paul Fusco, The Print Atelier.

Layers of texture and solid hits of black keep the all-white living room super cozy. So it's fitting that this is where the family spends the most time in winter, enjoying the plush seating and warm fire.

SOFA, ARMCHAIR, Montauk Sofa; black **SIDECHAIR,** Structube; **COFFEE TABLE, DRAPERY,** Restoration Hardware; white **BOOKSHELF,** IKEA; **RUG,** The Home Depot; *La Fin des Étoiles* **ARTWORK** by Maude Arsenault, The Print Atelier; **FLOOR LAMP,** EQ3; **TOSS CUSHIONS,** Dcovia; glass **LANTERNS** (on coffee table), black polygon **OBJET** (on bookshelf), VdeV.

BELOW, FAR LEFT & LEFT Maude selected classic Shaker-style cabinetry to keep the kitchen from feeling too modern. The marble perimeter countertops are difficult for a busy family to maintain, Maude admits, but she loves the matte black quartz on the island.

CABINETRY, The Home Depot; marble **PERIMETER COUNTERTOPS,** marble mosaic **BACKSPLASH TILES,** Italbec; quartz **ISLAND COUNTERTOP,** Bab Distribution; **BOWL,** Les Touilleurs.

BELOW, RIGHT The upstairs hallway features smaller works of art, including some pieces from friends.

SIDECHAIR, Structube.

SAH organizing idea

Store firewood in plain sight – it makes for a textural rustic-chic accent that's both decorative and functional.

THE MOST EFFECTIVE GALLERIES DRAW YOU IN AND MAKE YOU

feel welcome and inspired, as their artwork guides you from room to room, piquing your interest at each glance. Though this impeccably appointed house is not a gallery, it was decorated with the expert eye of a fashion photographer and online gallery owner, and its effect is the same: It beckons you to explore each corner and ask about every piece.

"I've always felt that my home is more about showcasing art than it is about design," says Maude Arsenault, who lives in this approximately 3,000-square-foot Victorian in Montreal's Outremont neighbourhood with her film director husband, Eric Tessier, and their three children.

Not surprisingly, every single wall is white (what gallery's walls aren't?). Warm and cool shades, high-gloss and eggshell finishes and wall treatments ranging from beadboard in the dining room to brick in the living room ensure the effect isn't too sterile. Meanwhile, strong doses of black and grey – the entryway stair runner, living room drapery and dining room table and pendant light, to name a few – punctuate the rooms and ground their airy

BELOW, FROM LEFT Step inside this chic gallery-like home and you'll be met by beautiful barely-there artwork – the compelling gaze of a gorgeous face photographed by Maude herself; the sidechair and side table in the master bedroom offer a quaint place to enjoy a coffee while overlooking the huge tree in the backyard; the dining room photograph is one of Maude's favourite pieces; she loves the downstairs bathroom's floor-to-ceiling subway tile with contrasting grout.

CONSOLE, VdeV; *Irina* **ARTWORK** by Maude Arsenault, The Print Atelier; **TRAY,** Zone; **BASKET,** HomeSense; **CANDLESTICKS, SIDECHAIR, SIDE TABLE,** EQ3; **WALL TILES,** Italbec; **BATHTUB,** The Home Depot; **SINK, FAUCET,** Ramacieri Soligo; **TOWEL,** Buk & Nola.

brightness. This simple palette provides the perfect backdrop for what *really* brings the space to life: the artwork. The collection is consistent throughout the whole house it's all compelling photography, mostly contemporary, some portraits, in muted colours and with personal meaning for Maude, whether they're her own works or great finds.

One of her most beloved pieces enjoys pride of place in the well-used dining room. The star of the stark white and black space is a close-up of a young girl staring straight into the camera. "The piece is from a series on kids watching TV," says Maude. "A lot of people ask if it's of my daughter, but I've had it for as long as I've had kids, so it's almost part of the family."

And that's the key to buying art, says Maude. "Don't buy something simply because it's a good value or the next cool artist. Trust your instincts and invest in something you really love you'll have to live with it for a long time." Use your home as a blank canvas for displaying art that reflects you and your personality that's the secret to successful design *à la Maude*.

SAH organizing idea

Maximize real estate in your bedroom by stacking books on your to-read list under a nightstand.

OPPOSITE "Books, lights, a chair and a bed – the master bedroom is very simple," says Maude. Above all else, she wanted it to feel peaceful, which is precisely why she chose the rose artwork for above the bed. "I love that it's dramatic but not upbeat," she says. "I find it so calming and self-reflective."

NIGHTSTAND, HomeSense; cowhide **RUG,** Dcovia; *Titre Inconnu* **ARTWORK** by Margo Ducharme, The Print Atelier; tripod **TABLE LAMP,** EQ3.

The black, white and wood entryway sets the tone for the whole home, which exudes the same modern classic vibe. This streamlined setup sends your eye immediately to the artwork resting casually on the floor – a moody shot of grassy, rocky terrain, which provides a whisper of colour to the space.

RUG, STAIR RUNNER, Variations; *Untitled* **ARTWORK** by Maxyme G. Delisle, The Print Atelier; **PENDANT LIGHT,** IKEA.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

"Trust your instincts and invest in something you really love – you'll have to live with it for a long time."

Homeowner Marina Farrow came up with this pretty solution to stop her dogs from digging up the flowerbeds: an aluminium tub filled with a variety of perennials.

DESIGN, CONTRACTING, Blake Farrow Project Management, blakefarrowproject.ca; Baby Seal Black 2119-30 **EXTERIOR PAINT,** Benjamin Moore.

COME together

TEXT CHRISTY WRIGHT

PHOTOGRAPHY ROBIN STUBBERT

STYLING CHRISTINE HANLON

It's all about family, friends and indoor-outdoor living at Marina and Blake Farrow's residence near Collingwood, Ont.

Sometimes it takes a faraway place to remind us of what matters close to home. That was the case for custom-home builder Blake Farrow of Blake Farrow Project Management and his wife, Marina, a designer who co-owns design studio and retail store Farrow Arcaro Design. "Three years ago we took our kids, Kyle, Jake and Olivia [now 21, 19 and 12 respectively], on a beach vacation," says Blake. "We spent every day outside, swimming, kiteboarding

The 10-foot-long dining table is on wheels, "so we can move it outside [through the glass bifold doors] for a dinner party or push it aside for one of our huge get-togethers," says Marina.

Simply White OC-117 **WALL PAINT** (throughout), Benjamin Moore; glass **BIFOLD DOORS,** NanaWall; custom **DINING TABLE, DINING CHAIRS,** upholstered **END CHAIRS, OUTDOOR FURNITURE,** Farrow Arcaro Design; **OUTDOOR UMBRELLA,** Squire John's.

"Our house is *A COOL SPACE* where we celebrate family and friends."

and hanging out together." Not wanting the idyllic family time to end with the vacation, the couple decided to rejig their real estate. "We lived in Collingwood [Ont.], where our businesses are located, but our trip reminded us that the long-term plan was to have some land where we could connect as a family," he says. "As soon as we got home, Marina called our real estate agent and said, 'Find us a place in the country.'" It was serendipitous, as a listing for a 1970s two-storey house on three and a half acres popped up while they were on the phone. "We put in an offer that moment," says Marina. "The house is a mile from town but feels like a world away."

It was also a world away from move-in ready, with a cracked foundation, rotted roof and wildly overgrown lot, but the couple was already envisioning a space that would reflect their lifestyle. "We like things simple, not over the top," says Marina. "We wouldn't be comfortable in a home where things have to be kept perfect." Given their professions, they were able to parlay those laid-back preferences into bricks and mortar – or in this case, barnboard. "I immediately imagined a barn," says Blake. "Its clean shape lends itself to casual living."

Ease for university students Kyle and Jake to come home and visit also dictated Blake's ingenious plan: Gut and rebuild the original 1,300-square-foot structure as a modern barn with three bedrooms, a bathroom and a large living area for their sons and link it with a hallway to a new house for themselves and Olivia. "This set-up is perfect for the guys," says Blake. "They have their own space where they can hang with their buddies. When they're back at school, we close it off to save energy."

Blake, Marina and Olivia lived in the "boys' barn" during the six months it took to build the 3,000-square-foot main barn, an energy-efficient two-bedroom house with an open-concept main level. It features radiant-heat polished concrete floors (low maintenance and perfect for the family's Bernese mountain dogs, Heidi and Rosie) and a show-stopping 26-foot-long wall of glass bifold doors that merge the dining area with the outdoor deck. Decor wise, the couple's no-fuss approach is conveyed with crisp white walls, uncovered windows and furniture fitted with wheels for impromptu placement inside and out – a

OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT & BELOW Marina designed the kitchen's 18-foot-long Caesarstone-topped island with two levels and different seating options at each. The slipcovered bench is on wheels and can easily slide into place at the dining table to accomodate extra guests.

CABINETRY, BENCH, STOOLS, PENDANT LIGHTS, Farrow Arcaro Design; **COUNTERTOPS,** Georgian Granite Works; **BACKSPLASH TILES,** Saltillo Imports.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT The home's exterior features vertically positioned barnboard painted charcoal grey.

LANDSCAPING, Vogel Landscape Design & Consulting Group.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM RIGHT The pizzazz of a canary yellow gas range energizes the kitchen with a jolt of colour against the warm tones of the grainy oak cabinetry.

APPLIANCES, Macdonald's Brand-Source Furniture & Appliances.

SAH organizing idea

Open shelves house everyday dishware and decorative objects.

RIGHT A stone-clad hall links the new barn (in the foreground) to the renovated original building.

FAR RIGHT The living room's firewood storage opens to an exterior shed so it can be loaded from the outside.

BELOW Proponents of fuss-free comfort, the couple designed the living room with real life in mind. The fireplace, a hotly in-demand spot for lounging in front of during the cold months, is fitted with a simple yet dramatic rusted-metal facade.

SOFAS, SIDECHAIRS, COFFEE TABLE, Farrow Arcaro Design.

"We wouldn't *BE COMFORTABLE* in a home where things have to be kept perfect."

big thing, given how much time they spend outside. "It's like a mini resort here," says Blake. "We have a pool, trails to explore, frogs to catch – we even added a zip line. Our house is a cool space where we celebrate family and friends." And where faraway vacations now seem superfluous.

OPPOSITE, TOP "I love to create new looks for our bed with colour and texture," says Marina. Her affinity for both is reinforced by the bench covered with an antique Turkish rug.

HEADBOARD, BENCH, NIGHTSTAND, custom **CONSOLE, BEDDING, SCONCES, TOSS CUSHIONS,** Farrow Arcaro Design; **FLOORING,** Gannon's Hardwood Flooring.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM LEFT The heated fibreglass salt-water pool is framed on one side by a row of apple red Muskoka chairs. The vintage sign, an antiques market find, is a favourite item. "It makes the house feel relaxed and lived in, and I love decorating outside walls," says Marina.

MUSKOKA CHAIRS, Squire John's.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM RIGHT "When Blake saw this vintage French poster at a store in New York City, he fell in love with 'the girl' and asked to bring her home with us," says Marina with a laugh. "In fact, the front entrance was designed to accommodate her." The rattan loveseat, a piece the couple's had for years, was painted cobalt blue to match the artwork.

FLOOR TILES, Stone Tile International.

FOR SOURCES, SEE OUR WORKBOOK

PFISTER HYBRIDS

EL-DÉLICES

SWEET ON BEETS

RECIPES CLAIRE STUBBS & PAULA BOWMAN

PHOTOGRAPHY EDWARD POND | **FOOD STYLING** CLAIRE STUBBS

PROP STYLING LARA MCGRAW

Delicious and nutritious both raw and cooked, this double-duty must-have veggie has become a favourite harvest-time habit.

Dark Chocolate
BEET BROWNIES

DARK CHOCOLATE BEET BROWNIES

PREP & COOK TIME **1 HOUR** | MAKES **16 SQUARES**

- 6 tbsp unsalted butter, melted, plus more for preparing the pan
- ½ cup all-purpose flour
- ½ tsp cinnamon
- ¾ cup golden brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1½ cups dark bittersweet chocolate chips, melted
- 1 tsp pure vanilla extract
- ⅔ cup peeled and finely grated raw red beets (about 2 medium)

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Butter an 8" square baking pan and line the bottom with parchment paper.

Stir together the flour and cinnamon in a small bowl and set aside. Using an electric mixer, beat the melted butter with the brown sugar in a large bowl. Add the eggs, one at a time, beating constantly; add the chocolate chips and vanilla extract and beat just until blended. Add the flour and cinnamon mixture and beat until the batter is smooth and glossy, about 1 minute. Add the beets and stir through until the mixture is thoroughly blended.

Spread the batter evenly into the prepared pan. Bake on the middle rack of the oven until a knife inserted in the centre of the pan comes out clean, about 30 minutes. Cool completely before turning out the brownies and cutting them into squares to serve.

CRISPY BEET CHIPS

PREP & COOK TIME **45 MINUTES** | SERVES **4**

- 4 large beets
- 4 cups peanut oil
- Sea salt to taste

Peel the beets and slice into very thin rounds on a mandoline (the thinner the slices, the crispier the chips).

Heat the peanut oil to 365°F in a large heavy-bottomed pot. Carefully drop in one-quarter of the sliced beets, stirring gently. Let cook until tender-crisp, about 5 to 6 minutes; remove with a slotted spoon and drain on a baking sheet lined with paper towels. The chips will crisp as they cool. Repeat with the remaining beet slices. Season with salt and serve immediately.

Crispy BEET CHIPS

BEETS ARE A GOOD SOURCE OF FIBRE, IRON, FOLIC ACID AND BETALAIN.

GOLDEN BEET PASTA WITH GOAT CHEESE & PINE NUTS

PREP & COOK TIME **30 MINUTES** | SERVES **4**

- 1 lb short pasta, such as casarecce
- 4 golden beets, roasted
- 1 tbsp unsalted butter
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 tsp crushed red pepper flakes
- 1 tsp lemon zest
- 1 handful beet greens, sliced into ribbons
- 4 oz soft goat cheese, crumbled
- ¼ cup toasted pine nuts

Cook the pasta in a large pot of boiling salted water according to the package directions.

Meanwhile, peel the roasted beets and cut them into bite-sized wedges. Heat the butter in a medium skillet over medium heat. Add the garlic and crushed red pepper flakes and sauté gently until fragrant, about 2 to 3 minutes. Add the beets and lemon zest and heat gently to warm through.

Drain the pasta and return to the pot. Stir in the beets, greens, cheese and pine nuts. Serve immediately.

ROASTED BEETS WITH ORANGE GREMOLATA

PREP & COOK TIME **1½ HOURS** | SERVES **4**

- 1 lb medium-sized beets (about 5), washed and trimmed
- 1 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for garnish
- 2 tbsp finely chopped fresh parsley
- 2 tbsp finely chopped fresh mint
- 1 tbsp finely grated orange zest
- ¼ tsp minced garlic

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Toss the beets in the olive oil, season with salt and pepper to taste and individually wrap each beet in a square of aluminum foil. Place the beets directly on the oven rack and roast until tender when pierced with a knife, about 1 hour. Remove from the oven and let rest until cool enough to handle. Peel the beets and discard the skins. Cut each beet into ¼"-thick rounds.

Meanwhile, to make the gremolata, combine the parsley, mint, orange zest and garlic in a bowl and stir until well blended.

To serve as a rustic side dish, place the peeled beets in a roasting pan, drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle with the gremolata. Serve warm or at room temperature.

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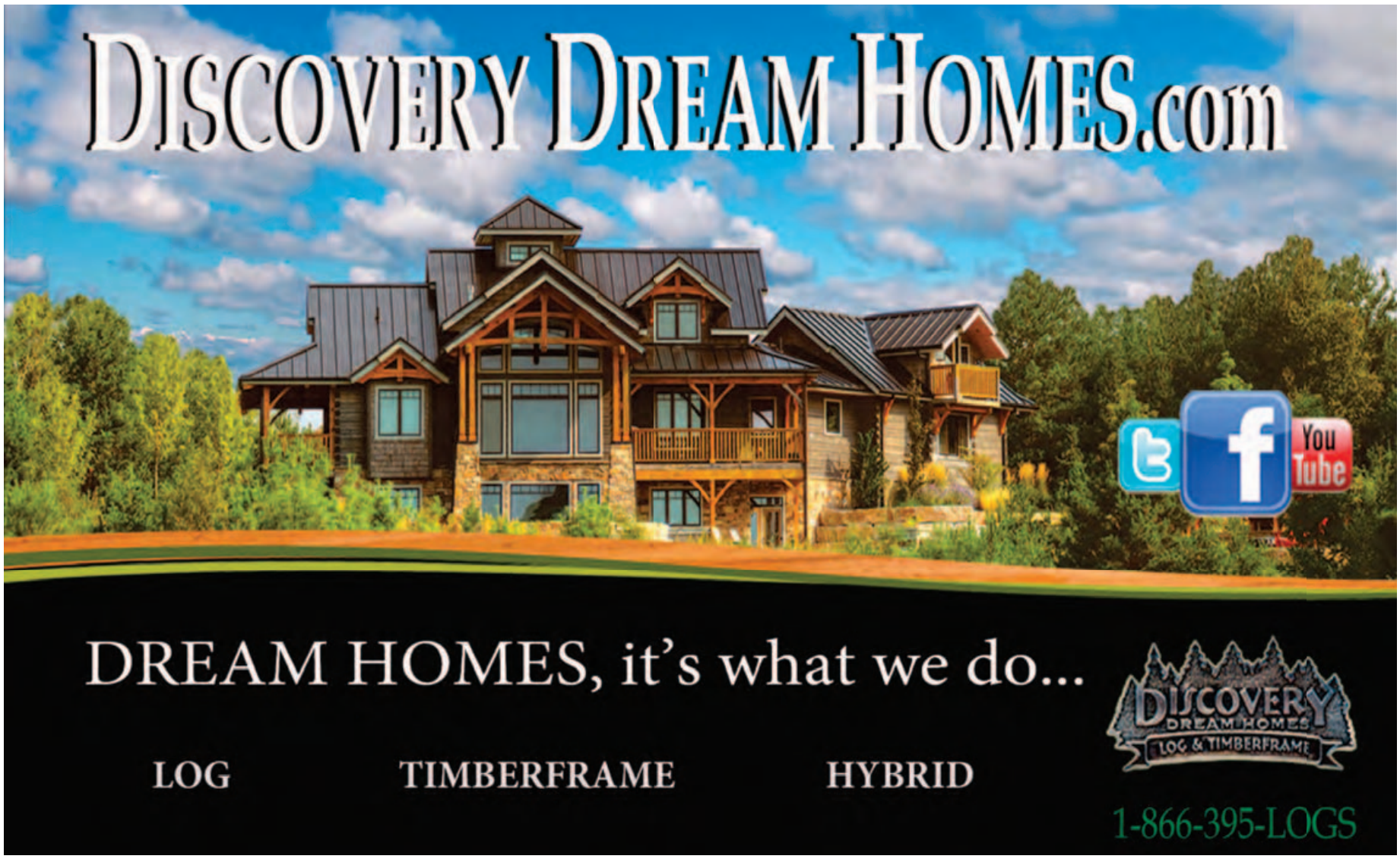

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Forget plastic drawer inserts – this durable wooden utensil tray is a kitchen organizing essential.

PHOTOGRAPHY VIRGINIA MACDONALD

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Crafty and organized go hand in hand in this home office with white shelving units and an orange pegboard.

PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL NANGREAVES

656 88

An ultra-clever solution for storing craft paper: Create wall holders by covering cans in cork.

PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL NANGREAVES

design pinspiration

We round up our favourite organizing images from our Pinterest boards for extra inspiration.

13 3

Keeping a closet clean and orderly is all the easier when it contains a slide-out drawer for jewellery.

PHOTOGRAPHY ROBIN STUBBERT

107 11

From its labelled containers to its neatly stored baskets, this pristine laundry room has captured our attention.

PHOTOGRAPHY MICHAEL NANGREAVES

28 2

A graphic DIY dresser lends this room a youthful vibe while keeping it clutter-free.

PHOTOGRAPHY RYAN BROOK/TC MEDIA

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